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Harvesting and Packing Apples for Export

(Broadcast Address, through Station 5CK, by Mr. E. Leishman, District Agric. Adviser, S.A. Department of Agriculture.)

(Reprinted from the S.A. "Journal of Agriculture.")

IT is proposed to deal briefly with this subject under the following headings:—

1st—Maturity of the fruit.
2nd—Harvesting.
3rd—Preparation for packing.
4th—Grading and sizing.
5th—Packing and wiring.
6th—Labelling and stencilling of cases.

Maturity of Fruit.

There is not any set time to harvest Apples, because climatic conditions influence the time of ripening. The fruit must be in such a condition that on arrival at the overseas port it is hard, crisp, and juicy. Immaturity results in tough, flavorless, and often wilted fruits, and when too matured the condition is soft, floury, and subject to breakdown and rots. Practical guides for ascertaining the maturity of Apples for export are:—

1. The seeds or pips changing to a brownish-black color.

2. The ground color showing signs of changing.

3. Tasting the Apples to determine sugar content.

The best practical guide for picking is the ground color of the fruit. When the Apple approaches maturity this color shows signs of changing to a lighter shade. This makes an effective guide if used intelligently.

Trees carrying light crops of Apples generally mature earlier than when the yield is heavy, and the orchardist is tempted, if supplying an early shipment, to pick from these trees. This class of fruit should not be shipped, because its storage life is short, and various storage disorders occur. The Cleopatra variety, which is susceptible to bitter pit, should not be picked until the ground color shows a slight change—having a tinge of yellow. Jonathan, which is a quick maturing variety, should not be advanced when picking, because breakdown often occurs, especially in the larger sizes. It is generally in the early varieties, when shippers are endeavoring to supply parcels for early ships, that immature Apples are picked.

Harvesting.

A considerable amount of avoidable damage is done to fruit by rough and unskilful treatment during picking operations. It is important in the picking of Apples to avoid undue pressure when grasping the fruit by the fingers and thumb. The Apple is easily severed at the junction of the stalk by an upward and downward movement. If pulled or twisted, the stalk may be pulled out, probably causing damage to the skin, which leaves an opening for decay.

Bruising caused in harvesting very often is not apparent until a later stage. Unsuitable receptacles for picking cause a considerable amount of bruising. Picking bags are the most popular in harvesting. These are slung from the picker's shoulders, and have the advantage that both the operator's hands are free. The bag should not be filled to the fullest capacity, because overloading causes considerable bruising, particularly when picking the fruit with the use of a ladder. When emptying the bag into the picking box special care should be used. "Petrol" cases are a suitable picking box, but users of these receptacles should avoid overfilling.

Preparation for Packing.

In all co-operative and private packing houses all equipment should be in good order before the commencement of harvesting. Trial runs should be made of the machinery that will be used, so that no delay occurs; packing for export is a rush job, and stoppages cause considerable delays. It is very important in all packing houses that provision be made to obtain the maximum amount of light on the sorting table of the grader. When fruit is stacked in the packing shed it often obscures the light from the wall windows. Skylight should be provided to overcome this possibility. If the building is insufficiently lighted it is very trying on the eyes of the operators, and makes it impossible for them to grade the fruit efficiently. For night work and dull days, artificial lighting is essential, making special provision for the sorting table.

Grading and Sizing.

In large packing houses and a number of the smaller ones machinery is installed to size the fruit, and is recognised as an indispensable part of the packing equipment.

I had the opportunity recently to inspect a number of packing houses in Tasmania, where two types of sizing machines are favored. In one, the separation is determined by weight, and the other by the diameter of the fruit. Both types of machines appeared to give satisfaction. In one of the progressive packing houses I was impressed with the care and attention devoted to preventing any Apples under grade requirements reaching the packing bins. There were four sorters on each side of the sorting table, and practically every Apple was handled.

Grading should not be confused with sizing, for the former cannot be done mechanically. To obtain efficient grading of the fruit, it is necessary to have skilled sorters, as this is one of the most important positions in the packing house.

Sizing machines of either type must be set as accurately as possible, so as the packers are able to place sufficient fruit in the box without bruising.

Packing and Wiring.

The usual system of packing adopted in this State is known as the "straight pack." This is the standard method of packing, and has been mostly practised since the inception of this standard box. The difficulty has been that the case when packed had either too much or too little "bulge." This has been principally due to the incorrect sizing of the fruit, and when placing the fruit in the boxes a firm downward pressure is made all over the fruit after every layer, or no pressure at all throughout the pack. This results, in many instances after the last layer has been placed, that instead of having the required bulge, the top is practically flat. When too high,, over pressing and dumping is necessary to fix the lids, and consequently bruising occurs. On the other hand, if the bulge is too low, complaints are made by the merchants overseas that the boxes are under the recognised weight.

To overcome this, and to keep up to the standard of our competitors, it has been necessary to revise the present method and encourage the "American Crown Pack."

The "Crown Pack" is very simple to the packers; it is not a case of learning a new method, but of breaking off old habits, particularly in regard to the pressure of fruit in the box.

It can be mastered by a few hours' practice. This pack is so named because the fruits are built up in the form of a "crown," the highest in each layer being in the centre of the box. The usual straight pack is adopted, and to obtain the "crown" it is necessary to apply a firm downward pressure on the side Apples, in addition to those at the end of each layer, when placing the fruit in position.

The remaining fruits are placed without this pressure, which results in the gradual building of a "crown" throughout the pack. It is not necessary to select slightly smaller Apples for the end and side positions. The more even the sizing of the fruit the better the crown will be.

It is essential that efficient lidding presses should be used for nailing down the boxes in this or any other system of packing. Severe bruising will occur if the lids are nailed to the cases on the packer's bench. Slightly longer lids are necessary to allow for the bulge. A unitised lid is more conveniently applied to the case.

The wiring machine has proved an economical means of strapping cases. It makes the package more secure in transit and lessens the possibility of pilfering the fruit. The important points in wiring the case after lidding are to keep the wires close up to cleats and to have the correct tension on the wiring.

Labelling and Stencilling.

There is a number of attractively printed labels used, and a neat simple design is favored. Labels poorly applied to the box have a most unsightly appearance. Use the best quality paste. To prevent bubbles forming on the labels, before they are fixed to the box soak the labels in water prior to applying the paste. When using a rubber stamp on the labels to designate the variety and count, see that it is distinct and place neatly in the allotted space. The usual practice is to label the boxes before they are packed, sufficient time being allowed for the labels to dry, because they are liable to be defaced during the handling.

If shippers desire practical demonstration of the "crown pack," application to the Horticultural Branch of the Department of Agriculture would secure the services of a packing instructor.

APPLES FOR CIDER.

Mr. G. McGowan, Olinda Park Orchards, Lilydale, Vic., who has achieved much success with his entries of cider in the Royal Show, has now started a proprietary company known as Mac's Cyder and Fruit Juices Pty. Ltd., at Stafford-lane, off 241 William-street, Melbourne. This new company is now open to treat with growers for deliveries of Apples for crushing. Mr. McGowan has been successfully manufacturing cider on his orchard at Lilydale for the past three or four years.

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Contents

	Page
Illustrations:	
Port Cygnet, Tasmania	9
Nine-year-old Grapefruit Tree	11
Well Cultivated Citrus Grove	11
Fumigating Oranges	19
Reciprocal Trade with Canada	23
Nursery of L. P. Rosen & Son (2 illus.)	31
Elgin Gas Storage	32
Subjects:	
Apples, Harvesting and Packing	2
Canning and Jam Fruits	15, 16
Citrus Industry	19-21, 29
Codling Moth Control	5
Dried Fruits News	23-25
Export and Commercial News	29-34
Fruit Fly Lure	6
Goulburn Valley Notes	27
Lemon Crop, Marketing the	29
Market Grower	26
Market Notes and Prices	33
Motor Cars, Trucks and Tractors	22
Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas	11, 12
News In Brief	8
News of the Month	3, 4
New South Wales	11-13
New Zealand	36
Nursery of L. P. Rosen & Son	31
Personal	4, 5
Pig Pen	35
Pineapples for Southern Markets	35
Poultry Notes	35
Publications Received	10
Queensland	13, 14
South Australia	17, 18
Spraying Notes	5-7
Stone Fruits, Gummosis of	6
Tasmania	9, 34
Victoria	27, 28
Western Australia	25

Index to Advertisers

	Page
Adelaide Fruit Merchants	34
Anti-Bruze Corrugated Fruit Pads	21
Beaumont, C., & Sons	27
Bingham, D. W., & Co. Pty. Ltd.	21
Blyth Chemicals Ltd.	2
Bourke Street Cool Store	9
Brewer, W. H., Pty. Ltd.	27
Brighton Ice Works	17
Brisbane Fruit Merchants	33
Brookes Lemos Ltd.	18
Brunning, John & Sons	5
Clements & Marshall Pty. Ltd.	12
Clensel Products Pty. Ltd.	8
Commonwealth Savings Bank	12
Cottier, E. R., Pty. Ltd.	20
Davis Gelatine	6
Dilworth & Son Pty. Ltd.	9
Electrolytic Refining & Smelting Co. of Aust. Ltd.	8
F. & M.G. Society	17
Gardner, Waern & Co. Pty. Ltd.	24
Geeves, Hedley, Pty. Ltd	33
Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Co. Pty. Ltd.	15, 19
Goodman, C. J.	15
Harvey, Daniel Ltd.	10, 19
Hillman & Keogh	18
Hull, Port of	10
Imperial Chemical Industries	8
International Harvesting Co. of Aust. Pty. Ltd.	20
Leggo, Victor & Farmers Ltd.	7
Jaques Pty. Ltd.	5
Lightning Fruit Grader Co.	Cover 1.
Liverpool, Port of	31
London, Port of	28
Margetson & Co. Ltd.	8
Melbourne Fruit Merchants	30
McLean, N. N., Pty. Ltd.	26
Monro, Geo. Ltd.	14
Neptune Oil Co. Ltd	4
Nitrogen Fertilisers	12
Nobelius, C. A., & Sons Pty. Ltd.	12
N.S.W. Chamber of Fruit & Veg. Ind.	28
Patrick, Jas. & Co. Pty. Ltd.	14
Poupart, T. J., Ltd.	16
Preston Motors Pty. Ltd.	22
Producers' Co-op. Dist. Society	30
Quick Manufacturing Co.	16
Ridley & Houlding	33
Rosen, L. P. & Son	25
Rotary Hoe Cultivators Ltd.	13
Russell & Co.	7
Southampton, Port of	29
Specialty Investments	11
Sydney Fruit Merchants	32
Trewhella Bros. Pty. Ltd.	28
U'Ren, Geo. A.	16
Vacuum Oil Co. Pty. Ltd.	6
Werner, R., & Co. Pty. Ltd.	36
Wholesale Fruit Merchants, Association of Victoria	35
Wicks "Mastergrip"	18
Wilson, Herbert, Pty. Ltd.	33
Woodmason, W., Ice Supply Pty. Ltd.	24

NEWS OF THE MONTH.

DURING February it became apparent that as regards the export of Apples, the States of Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales could not fulfil the quotas allotted to them because of adverse conditions — drought, heat waves and bushfires.

It remains to be seen how far Tasmania and Western Australia can supply the fruit to make up the Australian quota.

The generous rains will be of value to late varieties and will color up the Jonathans.

Requests were received from several quarters for alterations to the regulations and to permit the export of smaller sizes, but while expressing sympathy with individual districts and growers it was found impossible to effect any change at this stage, bearing in mind the Australian-wide aspect and the requirements of the overseas markets.

The problem of water shortage is still acute. This matter is a national one and it is hoped the authorities will receive the earnest requests for increased water storages.

Prominent attention has also been directed by conferences of growers to the problem of soil erosion, and the need was never more urgent for Governmental action in appointing a representative authority to deal with the broad aspects of this question, endowed with wide powers and ample funds to carry out the needed work based on adequate surveys.

An enquiry is being conducted in Victoria regarding the recent disastrous bush fires. While awaiting the detailed report, it is safe to say that here again national powers are needed by a competent authority. It is a surprise to many that following "Black Friday," January 13, a state of urgency was not declared by the Victorian Government for the putting out of still smouldering bush fires, for since that tragic day these smouldering fires have been whipped into fresh activities and there has been further loss of life and much damage to valuable property.

:: :: ::

A satisfactory vine crop is being harvested.

:: :: ::

The forthcoming Australian citrus crop will be very much lighter than that of last year.

Spray Tolerance.

WHY was the arsenate of lead tolerance fixed arbitrarily at .01 grains per pound of fruit? As has been pointed out in these columns, this percentage is exceeded in any other food products. An instance was quoted where, under American supervision, a man deliberately took .01 grains of arsenate of lead and steadily increased the dose until 1.0 was reached, and no harm was done. This is a subject which could well be taken up by competent authorities with British Health Authorities.

Agitation along these lines is proceeding in U.S.A. at the moment.

The .01 arsenic tolerance remains, but the lead tolerance has been raised from .018 to .025.

There is greater use of Fluorine spray in U.S.A. than in Australia. That tolerance was arbitrarily fixed at .01, but after agitation it was raised to .02, and as a result, a considerable quantity of fruit has been permitted to be sold which otherwise would have been destroyed. American growers are persisting in their agitation for still further modifications regarding spray tolerance.

Scientific Research.

ALL PRODUCERS will endorse the remarks of Sir John Russell, esteemed Director of Rothamsted Experimental Station (England), who, during his recent visit to Australia to attend the Science Congress, again stressed the need for continued scientific research.

While expressing appreciation for all that has been done by the State Departments of Agriculture, the C.S.I.R. and the Waite Institute, there is yet much scientific work awaiting attention in relation to stocks, plant breeding, pest and disease control, and general cultural operations.

Growers in the country districts would be wise to carry resolutions on this topic and give publicity to their needs, remembering the human element that goes to make up our Parliaments, and the value of educated public opinion in bringing about needed reforms.

Understanding and Goodwill.

THE WORLD political situation is still fraught with grave danger, as witness the sorry armament race and the utilising of untold millions of pounds that could well be put into social improvements. A Rotary Club president a few days ago stated that the world's supreme need was the promotion of greater understanding and sympathy among members of the human family.

Sympathy and goodwill are extended to the leaders of thought throughout the world in their endeavors to preserve peace based on justice.

Building a Healthy Nation.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS performed fine service in launching the idea of nutritional research. This research was carried out in most countries of the world, the consensus of opinion being that the public was not eating sufficient fruit and vegetables.

Among other things, it was discovered that Australians were amongst those having the worst teeth in the world. These nutrition reports are available, and it is pleasing to observe that groups associated with vital food products are influencing public opinion along the lines of food for health; but as yet this work is only in its infancy and there are vast opportunities in front of those who control the destinies of fruit and vegetable producers in more actively making known the health value of these products which is backed by the definite experience and goodwill of doctors, dentists and dietitians.

By the intensifying of educational publicity work, results of outstanding value to producers and the general public can be achieved. As Prof. Harvey Sutton (Sydney University), Chairman of the N.S.W. Nutrition Committee, stated with relation to milk products, fruit and vegetables—"Our work is to change the dietary habits of the nation."

The Pineapple crop in Queensland in 1939, is expected to be heavier than that of last season.

PERSONAL

Mr. S. M. Bruce, Australia's dignified and capable High Commissioner, is now in Australia, where his services are available to advise Federal and State Governments on matters of high policy. During his term as Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Bruce had as his constituents a large number of fruit and vegetable producers. His efforts on their behalf are acknowledged with appreciation. It was Mr. Bruce who launched at the League of Nations the proposal for nutrition research, which has done so much good throughout the world.

Dr. James Marshall, Entomologist of the Washington (U.S.A.) State College Experimental Farm at Wenatchee, has resigned in order to accept a position in Canada. During his six years at the Wenatchee Experimental Station, Dr. Marshall conducted valuable research into the codling moth problem. Amongst other things he was the co-inventor of a new type spray injector which does away with the necessity of a mixing tank. "Better Fruit" says that Washington's loss will be Canada's gain.

Mr. Gerald W. Beverley, J.P., Senior Fruit Instructor of the New South Wales Department of Agriculture, being due for four months' leave, has decided to visit California, and leaves by the "Mariposa" on May 26. Mr. Beverley will inspect various aspects of the fruit industry while in California, and also expects to visit the great Exposition which is to be held in San Francisco this year.

Prior to joining the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Beverley was manager of the Pyap Estate South Australia, owned by the Pyap Pty. Ltd., of which the late C. J. De Garis was the managing-director. After leaving Pyap, Mr. Beverley was appointed as Fruit Expert and Assistant Administrator of the Kendenup Estate, Western Australia, and although this large project could not be carried through owing to the lack of funds which had been promised, Kendenup, after many vicissitudes is now one of the most flourishing and progressive settlements in W.A., fulfilling the forecast which Mr. Beverley gave when he relinquished his position with the company.

Mr. J. H. Dunning has been elected as the representative of the South Australian Fruit Marketing Association on the State Eastern Advisory Committee in place of the late H. J. Bishop.

Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith has been appointed Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries in the British Cabinet. Sir Reginald, it will be remembered, was the leader of the British delegation to the Empire Producers' Conference which was held in Sydney last year.

Sir Chas. Merrett has been re-elected President of the Royal Agricultural Society.

Mr. Dugal Clark, of the firm of Messrs. Clark and Jesser, Fruit Exchange, Brisbane, recently returned from a visit to Great Britain. He emphasises the need for continued improvement in the pack of Australian fruit, as the competition in U.K. is increasing.

The Superintendent of Horticulture (**Mr. J. M. Ward**), Department of Agriculture, Victoria, accompanied by his wife, left for Englanl on the "Stratheden" on February 21. Whilst in the United Kingdom Mr. Ward will compare Australian fruit with that from other countries with a view to improving the pack, and note the condition of our fruit on arrival.

It is thought that Mr. Ward will visit some of the research stations, such at East Malling, and return by way of Canada and U.S.A. to make personal contact with horticultural research workers and various fruit-packing houses there.

Mr. A. G. Strickland, M.Ag.Sc., Chief Horticultural Instructor, S. Aust. Dept. of Agric., and **Mr. S. H. Grueber,** State Supervising (Fruit) Officer of Tasmania, are also aboard the "Stratheden: these officers will observe the outturn of Australian fruit in U.K., and will report fully on their return.

Mr. M. F. Troy left on the "Strathaird" for London on February 14 to assume duty as Agent-General for Western Australia in succession to Sir Hal. Colebatch. Mr. Troy has been a member of the Legislative Assembly for Mt. Magnet (W.A.) for 35 years without interruption.

Mr. E. F. Robins, of Pacific Potash Ltd., Sydney, N.S.W., was away for two weeks in February. He entered hospital to have his tonsils removed.

Mr. A. Powell, Cool Storage Officer at Wellington, N.Z., recently published helpful advice on the subject of fruit cool storage in N.Z., giving valuable hints and improvements in efficiency and economy. Mr. Powell will be one who specially regrets the destruction by fire of the Blackburn Cool Stores, for in this place he was the chief engineer for a number of years.

Mr. A. Yeates, West Australian representative on the Commonwealth Dried Fruits Board, was recently in Melbourne attending a meeting of the Board at which the marketing of the coming harvest had been considered. Mr. Yeates is also President of the West Australian branch of the Returned Soldiers' League.

Mr. A. V. Lyon, M.Agr.Sc., Officer-in-Charge of the Merbein Research Station, is performing highly appreciated services in the Murray River Areas. His recent visit to Barmera (S. Aust.), where he addressed a meeting of growers, was much esteemed.

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Spraying for Insect Pest and Disease Control

PERSONAL—(Continued)

Captain D. B. Halhed, Chairman of Directors of the Victorian Central Citrus Association, presided at the recent annual conference in his usual capable and charming manner, but we tremble to think what would happen should the Captain miss his morning glass of Grapefruit juice.

Mr. S. McHugh, M.H.R., speaking at a meeting of Renmark fruitgrowers recently, paid a tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Charles Hawker, M.H.R. His services to Australia, he stated, were of national value. Other speakers endorsed these remarks.

Mr. H. D. Howie, Chairman of the Renmark Fruitgrowers' Co-op., and esteemed leader of the Australian dried fruits industry, speaking at Renmark recently, urged growers to hold fast to the principles of co-operation, on which success had been built. He urged that no more irrigation schemes be undertaken until the present irrigation settlements were assured of sufficient water.

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CODLING MOTH CONTROL

IN THE EXPERIMENTS carried out recently at Young (N.S.W.), on codling moth control, the standard practices were confirmed.

The Sprays Applied.

The first three sprays applied consisted of:—

Lead arsenate powder, 2½ lb. to 80 gals.

Lime sulphur, 1 in 40.

Spreader, ½ lb. in 80 gals.

Hydrated lime, 2 lb. in 80 gals.

These applications were the calyx and first and second cover sprays.

Some experimental sprays were used.

Dates and Intervals of Applications.

The sprays were applied on the following dates:—

	Interval Between Applications. Days.
Calyx spray—Oct. 13	—
First cover spray—Nov. 3	21
Second cover spray—Nov. 25	22
Third cover spray—Dec. 18	23
Fourth cover spray—Jan. 8	21
Fifth cover spray—Jan. 27	19
Sixth cover spray—Feb. 18	21
Seventh cover spray—May 12	22

Discussion of Results Obtained.

The use of white oil plus lead arsenate again proved to give most effective control.

White oil plus nicotine sulphate gave very satisfactory results and was also responsible for cutting down the lead arsenate residue on fruit at harvest. Results with this spray were more satisfactory than anticipated, due probably to the lessened interval between sprays, viz., 21 days.

Diphenylamine (phenotiazine) did not prove to be as efficient as lead arsenate. In addition, an unsightly dark deposit was left an leaves and fruit and a noticeable odour remained with the fruit at harvest. The material supplied supposedly contained 5 per cent. beta-naphthol and a synthetic wetting agent to overcome certain of the undesirable properties mentioned above.

Bentonite sulphur plus nicotine sulphate did not prove very effective in controlling moth.

The derris—white oil emulsion proved to be the least effective of all the sprays tested.

The results obtained under the experimental conditions reduced the infestation from 73.3 per cent. in the unsprayed checks to 4.6 per cent. in the case of the lead arsenate-white oil spray, giving a reduction of infestation of over 90 per cent.

Observations on Various Sprays.

Lead Arsenate and Lime Sulphur.—A very pronounced injury followed the third application of lead arsenate plus lime sulphur. Extremely hot weather followed this application, and even unsprayed fruit showed a certain amount of sun-scald. In the sprayed trees this condition became much more pronounced, and finally resulted in a severe russeting and even cracking of the fruit. On trees with only sparse foliage up to 30 per cent. of the fruit was damaged in this fashion.

White Oil—Lead Arsenate mixture used at the same time did not cause any appreciable injury.

Bentonite Sulphur Plus Nicotine Sulphate left a pronounced and unsightly residue on the fruit. This residue could not be removed by wiping with either dry or wet cloths, and consequently its continued use under existing conditions is impracticable.

The Derris—White Oil Emulsion which was specially prepared for the test was found to be very ineffective. In addition a residue of derris usually ran to the calyx end of the fruit, and an oil-staining at this position soon became evident. Excessive use of the usual white oils has caused a somewhat similar condition, but the presence of the derris powder apparently encourage this tendency to oil-burn.

Phenothiazine was found to be reasonably effective, but still inferior to lead arsenate. The residue previously referred to is very easily removed by wiping although the odor of the material is fairly persistent. There was no evidence of any spray injury to either foliage or fruit. Complaints have been made in America by sprayers and harvesters in contact with this material, but, due possibly to the limited use here, no untoward effects were noted.

White Oil—Nicotine Sulphate. — Fruit sprayed with this combination was of good quality and size and without any noticeably excess residue of lead arsenate.

Lead Arsenate plus Spreader. — Fruit sprayed with this combination was of good color and finish. The residue was heavy but easily removed and did not result in any undesirable blotching. "Stings" or small codling moth blemishes were more frequent than in the case of the other sprays.

Spray Residues.

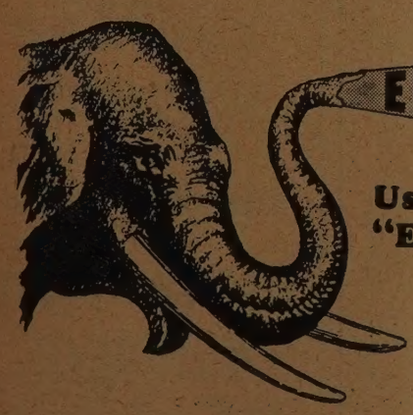
When a full lead arsenate programme was followed throughout the season, a very heavy deposit of lead arsenate was present, which exceeded greatly the legal tolerance. This was overcome to a large extent by the harvesters wearing woollen gloves and wiping the Apples when picking. This, combined with other measures adopted at grading, resulted in fruit reasonably free from objectionable residues.

Mechanical wipers tested were found to be generally unsatisfactory, and this means of dealing with the problem was discontinued.

Spraying the trees with a mixture of sodium silicate prior to harvesting was also tested. A very noticeable effect was apparent on the residue, but full details of the results will not be available until the chemical analyses have been made. This treatment may be of particular value to late varieties, but its use on mid-season varieties while the codling moth is still active would involve other considerations.

Combination Sprays.

The use of lime sulphur—lead arsenate sprays early in the season was responsible for many difficulties, and in some instances resulted in severe spray injuries. Chemical analyses of several desirable combinations are being tested, and it is felt that the difficulties may be overcome by the manner of mixing and the use of casein spreaders or hydrated lime as buffer reagents. Other points requiring attention, are the immediate use of the spray when mixed, increased speed in applying the spray, emptying of the residues in the spray vat several times a day and especially before the stop for dinner, and finally clearing out the vat and spray hoses each night.



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Use "ELEPHANT" Brand Arsenate of Lead—Quality Stands Alone.

Insist Upon it!

FRUIT GROWERS generally have come to depend on "Elephant" Brand Sprays. They find them absolutely reliable, efficient and of guaranteed quality.

We can supply all your Spray Requirements—ARSENATE OF LEAD (Paste or Powder), SPRAY SPREADER, SPECIAL COPPER MIXTURE, LIME SULPHUR, WHITE OIL, NICOTINE SULPHATE, RED OIL, Etc.

Extract from "BETTER FRUIT," March, 1937, by Dr. R. L. Webster, Entomologist, State College of Washington, Pullman: CODLIN MOTH COVER SPRAYS—"Ever since the imposition of an arsenic tolerance in 1925, and even before that time, investigators have been testing other materials which may be used in place of lead arsenate. Following all these intensive and extensive investigations lead arsenate appears to have certain inherent qualities which place this material foremost as an insecticide for codlin moth control."

JAQUES PTY. LTD., Are Actual Manufacturers and Distributors of "ELEPHANT" Brand Sprays.

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N.Z.—Pissey, McInnes Ltd., Box 1114, G.P.O., Auckland.

FRUIT FLY LURE

Mr. G. W. Wickens, Supt. of Hort., W.A. Dept. of Agric., has written directing attention to a par. which appeared in the January, 1939, issue of the "Fruit World and Market Grower," page 7, and questioning the formula there given.

At the same time Mr. Wickens sends the formula which is recommended by the W.A. Dept. of Agric., as follows:—

Compulsory Fruit Fly Foliage Bait. Formula—

(1) 1 oz. Sodium fluosilicate.
2½ lb. sugar.
4 gallons of water.

(2) **For household use.**
Stock solution for keeping:
1 dessertspoonful Sodium fluosilicate.
1 pint of water.
For use:
3 Tablespoonfuls stock solution.
3 tablespoonfuls sugar.
1 pint of water.

(3) **Proprietary Mixture:**
A ready-to-use Sodium fluosilicate bait is obtainable under the name of "109."

The addition of any fruit juices in season will increase the attractiveness of the baits.

All mixture should be kept agitated while in use.

Quantities.

A gallon of mixture is sufficient to treat 40 trees or 100 Grape vines. For back-yard trees about half a cup of bait is sufficient.

Method of Application.

The mixture should be applied to the foliage on two or more sides of the tree with a spray pump or syringe, or splashed on with a whitewash brush or perforated tin, once every six days. Apply six weeks before fruit is ripe and two weeks after fruit has been stripped.

All infested fruit must be picked from the trees and the ground daily and destroyed by boiling or steeping in a vessel containing water and kerosene for three days.

Warning.

The quantities stated in the formula given above should be rigidly adhered to, for at the strength quoted, Sodium Fluosilicate, while quite effective in destroying fruit flies, is harmless to human beings.

:: :: ::

Since the foregoing was printed, a ready prepared bait has been put up by the Imperial Chemical Industries, under the name of Lurotox, which has been registered in W.A. as an insecticide for this purpose.

GUMMOSIS OF STONE FRUITS.

UNFAVORABLE soil and climatic conditions often result in the development of abnormal conditions in plants, and gummosis is one of the commonest manifestations in woody plants when the season has been unpropitious. This condition, however, may also result when parasitic organisms, insect pests and mechanical agencies have caused injury to the trees, but soil and climatic factors are considered to be of greater importance. The production of gummed areas may be so extensive as to prevent the normal movement of sap in the tree, and may result in death of affected limbs or, in some cases, of the entire tree.

Effect of Soil and Climate.

The relation of soil and climatic conditions to the production of gum is not very clear. It is true that the trees which are in low-lying, badly-drained areas are generally most affected, but the condition may also be observed in trees which are growing in well-drained soils. Frosts and excessive cold may also result in the development of gumming. A sudden drop in temperature may injure the cambium (the tissues between the wood and the bark), with the result that the tissues are broken down at weak places in the bark with an exudation of gum later on. An exceptionally dry Summer may cause a good deal of gumming, and this is accentuated by heavy rains following a long period of comparative dryness. Trees on heavy clay soils sometimes develop gumming.

In severe cases, the bark ruptures and the gum is readily seen flowing down from the affected areas. Gum, however, may be formed in the tissues of the tree, and there may be no exudation at all.

Gumming on Fruit.

The fruits also may be affected: small gum pockets are formed, gum may be exuded in drops or tendrils, and growth is checked in the gummed area, with consequent malformation of the fruit.

Control Measures.

A full discussion of measures for control is available to growers on application. These include attention to such matters as drainage, soil improvement, liming of soil, inarching of trees, use of certain types of stocks, and so forth. Inquiries should be directed to the Biologist, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, Box 36A, G.P.O., Sydney.

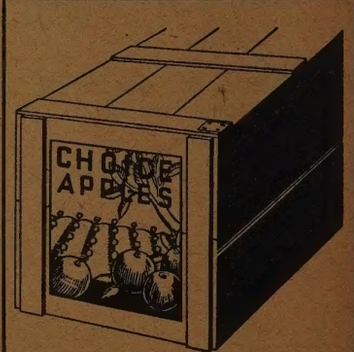
DEATH ADVANCES

Protect trees while dormant with Gargoyle RED

When a fruit tree is very healthy and vigorous it is more liable to be attacked, more vulnerable. The sickness of a single fruit tree should be as big a blow to your pride as it undoubtedly is to your pocket. Because your fruit trees are your "bread and butter" you have a vital interest in their protection, and there is but one BEST way to keep them in continued good health and bearing unspoiled crops—namely, a comprehensive spray program using Gargoyle Red, Pale and White Spraying Oils. The use of Gargoyle RED gives maximum control in the DORMANT period, attacking egg and larvae forms of all pests; it also encourages early blossoming and a longer leafing period; it improves the health of the trees. Best time to spray Gargoyle RED (which has no serious rival in the horticultural world) is near to bud burst, and pick a sunny day to do it for best results.

Gargoyle RED Spraying Oil

SP 61



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MOTTLE LEAF OF CITRUS.

Control Experiments in U.S.A.

Mottle leaf of citrus formed the subject of an investigation by the American Horticultural Society recently, and their report is summarised as follows by the Imperial Bureau of Horticulture, E. Malling, Eng.

The report presents the results obtained by treating affected citrus trees with various zinc compounds, the respective merits of the compounds being determined by the duration of response to foliage applications.

Sprays containing very low concentrations of zinc were most efficient when applied prior to the Spring or Autumn cycles of growth.

The application of copious amounts of dilute sprays was also observed to lengthen the time before the trees began to show definite reversion to mottle-leaf condition.

The most important factor, however, was increasing the concentration of the spray to a zinc equivalent of 1.15 lb. per gall.; higher increases gave no response, nor at this concentration was there any difference in response to varying the season or rate of application. The addition of several spreading agents also failed to increase the efficacy. The effect of a suitable zinc spray would last two-four years.

When applied at equivalent zinc concentrations a number of sources of zinc gave good results. Dusts diluted to 10 per cent. zinc content were less efficient and results could not be improved by increasing the quantity of dust applied to the tree or by the addition of blood albumin or oil. The nature of the diluent employed did slightly affect the length of duration of the response to the treatment, sulphur or talc being more satisfactory than hydrated lime or diatomaceous earth. The more effective sources of zinc dust are named in the report referred to.

CONTROL OF RED MITE.

Results of Californian Experiments.

INVESTIGATIONS during several years at the University of California by entomologists with selenium and a proprietary preparation called Selocide have produced some interesting and valuable results.

Mixed with lime-sulphur or wettable sulphur, effective kills of Red Mite were obtained on citrus, Grapes and Walnut trees. Selocide alone gave good control over Red Spider on Walnut trees, but under certain conditions it caused stains on Navels and Lemons.

Summarising their conclusions, the investigators reported that a spray made by dissolving in a solution of potassium ammonium sulphide in the proportion studied is effective for the control of Mites on citrus and Grapes. After several years' use, there was no evidence of harmful effects upon the plants, and fruit injury had occurred to only a limited extent in certain districts. Analysis of citrus fruits showed that the residue, which is mainly free selenium, is present to the extent of two to practically zero parts per million in the rind, according to the length of time between the application of the spray and the analysis. The residue upon Grapes was somewhat greater on account of the larger surface presented to the spray. It is concluded that proper use of a selenium-containing spray on citrus and Grapes offers no hazard to the public health.

THE VICTORIAN FRUIT MARKETING ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Executive of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association was held in the Board Room of the Commercial Travellers' Association, Melbourne, on Friday, February 3, 1939, at 10.45 a.m.

There were present: Messrs. W. P. Hutchinson (President), W. H. Carne, A. S. Harrison (Vice-Presidents), J. G. B. MacDonald, M.L.A., J. B. Mills, F. Moore, J. J. Tully, H. J. Noonan, W. Young, S. Cornish, S. Brown, F. R. Mellor, K. Weeding, H. M. McLean, K. V. Eagle, F. Cave, G. H. Sprague, R. A. W. Bailey, Esmond Russell, J. W. Barker, E. Noonan (Southern Growers), F. Petty (Cool Stores' Association), J. M. Ward (Superintendent of Horticulture), W. M. Carne and E. N. Robinson (Department of Commerce), and R. E. Boardman (Secretary).

Apologies were received from Messrs. G. Douglas and C. H. Jost.

Timber for Boxes.

Mr. J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture, wrote enclosing copy of letter sent to case makers, giving the required specifications for fruit cases.

Letters received from the Comptroller of Customs and Messrs. C. H. Tutton Pty. Ltd., stating that in response to representations by the Association, wooden containers (other than casks) for use in primary industries, would be free of duty.

It was decided to thank Messrs. Tuttons for their helpfulness in this matter and to advise casemakers.

Marine Insurance.

Letter received from the Chairman of the Apple and Pear Council stating that arising out of the breakdown of propelling machinery of the "City of Brisbane" last season, and the transfer of the fruit to the "Dunedin Star," some clauses had been drafted covering the needed insurance without further charge. However, some States had submitted clauses deemed to further clarify the wording, and these had been sent forward to the Marine Underwriters' Association. It was satisfactory to know that the position was now safeguarded.

The Chairman said the thanks of the Association were due to Mr. Mills and the Council for good services rendered.

Fruit Packing Instructor.

Letter received from the Public Service Commissioner addressed to Mr. MacDonald, M.L.A., stating that in response to representations on behalf of Mr. William H. Harris, Temporary Assistant Fruit Packing Instructor, the position occupied by Mr. Harris had been made permanent, and he had been duly nominated for appointment thereto.

This information was received with satisfaction, and Mr. McDonald was accorded a vote of thanks.

Freight Rate to the East.

Mr. K. Weeding wrote enclosing particulars of fruit freight rates to the Near East from Western Australia as compared with freight rates from Eastern States.

It was decided that the information be published.

Empire Fruit Council.

The Apple and Pear Council wrote enclosing copies of minutes of meetings of the Empire Fruits Council in London of November 22, 1938, and December 20, 1938; particulars were given of the action taken to safeguard the trade in Empire Apples in relation to foreign competition, especially at the period of lower duty just prior to the opening of the Australian-New Zealand season; also re proposed International Fruit Conference. Noted.

Apple and Pear Publicity

A request was received from the Apple and Pear Council for the views of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association as to the proposed publicity campaign for 1939, and the suggested budget from Victoria.

On the motion of Messrs. Mills and Young this matter was referred to the Publicity Committee for attention.

The Apple and Pear Council wrote forwarding copy of report of the Chairman of the Judges' Committee in the recent Handwriting Competition.

Appreciation was expressed for the success of this effort, and it was decided to forward for the information of growers generally a copy of the report to every member.

Water Shortage.

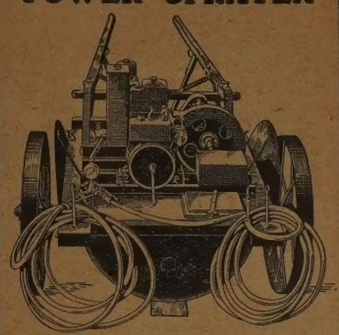
Mr. McLean gave details of losses incurred through water shortage in various parts of Victoria and moved "That in view of the disastrous 1937-38-39 drought and the shortage of water throughout the State for irrigation, domestic and stock purposes, it be a recommendation from this Association, representing the fruitgrowers throughout Victoria, that the Victorian State Government be urged to construct more storages throughout the State to provide for the future." Mr. Young seconded.—Carried.

Pear Packing Material.

Mr. Weeding gave particulars of new frictionless Pear packing material for lining cases, widely adopted in U.S.A., and now introduced into Australia. The costs, without duty, was 25/- per thousand pieces; with duty and charges the cost was 57/- per 1,000 pieces. The lowest Australian quotation was 107/- per 1000 pieces, for similar quality. He stated that he was negotiating with the authorities for drawback on re-export. In his opinion this material was particularly suitable also for interstate trade.

It was decided that the V.F.M.A. obtain full details for submission to the authorities through the Apple and Pear Council, to secure the needed relief.

— THE —
BAVE-U
POWER SPRAYER



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New Member.

Mr. L. Haebech, Bittern, was elected as a new member.

General Meeting.
Apple and Pear Board.

A general meeting of members of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association was held at the Commercial Travellers' Association on Friday, February 3, at 2.30 p.m.

The following names were submitted as a panel to the Minister for Commerce from which two would be selected for the Apple and Pear Board:—Messrs. D. Black, W. P. Hutchinson, F. Moore and W. Young.

PRODUCTION OF TUNG OIL.

We are in receipt of an interesting booklet from Tung Oil Mills Ltd., Gardeners-road, Mascot, New South Wales, giving general information to growers on the commercial production of Tung oil. Copies are available free on request to the company at the address given above.

Remember !

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Orchard Sprays

Proved the Best
Highest Grade and Purity

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Your LEMON and ORANGE Trees from Scale and Aphis—

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NEWS IN BRIEF.

Under a new regulation in Western Australia, fruit retailers must now display prominently the variety, grade and size of Apples and Pears offered for sale.

Red Cliffs Co-op. handled a record of 9,320 tons of dried fruits. There was also a substantial increase in citrus turnover. Profits for last year were £3,550: an 8 per cent. dividend is being paid.

The Blackburn Cool Stores were destroyed by fire on February 20. The loss was £25,000. The buildings were insured, but only a portion of the 8,000 cases of fruit were covered by insurance.

Because of the scarcity of Potatoes, and as a protest against the ban on New Zealand Potatoes, the Retail Fish, Rabbit and Poultry Trades' Association of Victoria intends to consider supporting the Sydney Fish Merchants' Association's decision to boycott Potatoes.

Opposition to the embargo has also been expressed by the Housewives' Association (Howey Court), Melbourne.

In U.S.A. the new tolerance of .025 grains of lead per pound of fruit has been gratefully received by the entire Apple industry.

In England, twice as much fruit is consumed now as before the war.

The Young Farmers' Club Movement has made tremendous strides in New Zealand. Clubs are established all over the Dominion. Field Days are frequently held, also debates and social functions.

Victoria shipped 41,878 export cases of Oranges to N.Z., valued at £27,553, in the six months ending December 14, 1938.

Over 1,000,000 farmers in U.S.A. buy supplies co-operatively: there are more than 15,000 farmers' co-operative associations. The co-operative purchasing of farm necessities for last year topped £67,496,000.

There is a light crop of citrus on the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas this season.

The central packing house system is spreading in Tasmania. The Port Huon Co. is active in this connection in order to put up long lines of standardised packs for export and interstate trade.

The quantity of Apples packed in standard cases in Tasmania is showing a steady increase.

Queensland grocers are to be commended on their spirit of co-operation in pushing the sale of canned fruits.

The western Apple crop of U.S.A. is moderately light—the Middle West crop is really short, the eastern commercial Apple districts are not blanks by any means, although somewhat lighter than normal. The New England hurricane last November destroyed a large acreage of commercial plantings.

To combat Red Scale on citrus a light spray with oil three weeks prior to fumigation is recommended by our M.I.A. correspondent.

The inclusion of potassium linoleate in the form of a wetting agent in the cold dip for Sultanas has reduced the immersion period and favorably hastened the work of processing Sultanas.

The 1938 crop of Oranges in Western Australia was 300,000 cases, of which 3,480 were exported.

During 1938, Western Australia exported 72,752 cases of table Grapes, the largest total previously being 61,745 cases in 1937.

As many as 3,000 cases of Tomatoes per acre have been harvested at Coff's Harbour (N.S.W.). The average by the best growers is about 1,000 cases per acre.

By the United efforts of growers, the Department of Agriculture in W.A., and the discovery of a new bait in sodium fluosilicate, it is hoped to bring the Fruit Fly pest under control.

MOULD IN COOL STORES CAN BE CONTROLLED AND PREVENTED

with SHIRLAN WS *and* SHIRLAN AG

THESE OUTSTANDING CHEMICALS WITH A SALICYLANILIDE BASE HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED AS SPECIFICS FOR MOULD CONTROL IN COOL STORES OR IN ANY SITUATION WHERE FOODSTUFFS ARE STORED OR PROCESSED AND WHERE A NON-POISONOUS MOULD PREVENTIVE IS DESIRABLE.

SHIRLANS are non-poisonous, odorless, and chemically inactive. They are stable and will exercise their antiseptic properties over a wide temperature range and for a long period of time after their application.

Shirlan WS is sufficiently soluble and Shirlan AG is finely dispersed so as to ensure in either case a uniform distribution over the wall surface. They can also be incorporated in any limewash, paints, or distempers.

IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND, LIMITED

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TASMANIA

Heat and Bushfires Followed by General Rain :: Growing Conditions Now Excellent :: Freedom From Insect Pest and Fungoid Trouble :: Export Season Opened :: New Packing Houses :: Developing the Interstate Trade with a Distinctive Brand :: Difficulties With Case Regulations.

(By Our Correspondent.)

SINCE WRITING last month, weather conditions went from bad to worse in Tasmania. The northern districts suffered severely from the long dry spell and high winds, and later from bush fires; the damage done by this combination of circumstances is impossible to estimate. The orchards suffered severely. In the south the high winds continued to do damage, and the long spell without rain began to tell on fruit crops, especially in those localities where there were bush fires.

However, on February 11 heavy rain set in up north and extended over the whole State during the weekend. The later varieties of Apples and Pears should now continue growth unchecked. Autumn feed also seems to be assurred.

The export season

commenced up the north of the State with the "Clan-Farquhar," which took about 11,000 cases from Beauty Point on February 15. The shipment was largely composed of Worcester Pearmain, which appeared to me to be of very high quality, the color being very good, and fruit of medium size. Two other boats are listed to arrive at Beauty Point during February to load fruit.

The Pear crop, both north and south, is looking very well in most places, the chief exception being Winter Coles on dry situations.

Packhams and B. Bosc are very good. The Blue Funnel liner "Anchises opened the season from Hobart. Worcesters, Alf. and Alex. appeared to comprise most of her shipment. The "Tuscan Star" came next, followed by the "Orcades" and "Somerset," the latter is taking a large shipment.

Growers are complaining with just cause that the allotments for March are not available yet. The lack of information till the very last is annoying to the individual, and detrimental to the industry.

We hear that this season's programme is very unsatisfactory, as several slow boats are loading early fruit which will disorganise the arrivals and react detrimentally on the market. Early varieties should be shipped on the fast boats.

Mr. Howard Grueber, Chief Port Inspector, left for England on February 18, to observe the condition of the fruit on arrival and study the requirements of the market. We wish him a pleasant trip and safe return.

The

control of insect pests.

appears to be satisfactory up to date as red spider has only shown up on certain varieties to any extent, and canary fly is hardly noticeable in most orchards, but may show out later. The green caterpillar (leaf roller) does not seem so prevalent as in the two preceding seasons.

Black spot is only prevalent in certain localities and on susceptible varieties.

Hail was not so troublesome as last year, although some orchards got hit rather badly.

The Sydney market

should be payable this season as supplies from all sources are likely to be under requirements owing to seasonal conditions. I understand that the **Port Huon Co-op. Society has opened two more packing sheds** this season, and has adopted a neat label for all consignment fruit packed in its various sheds. This will probably be an advantage from the salesman's point of view as it will insure a large parcel of fruit of even grade and one brand.

There appears to be general relief felt at the probability of the National Insurance scheme being shelved.

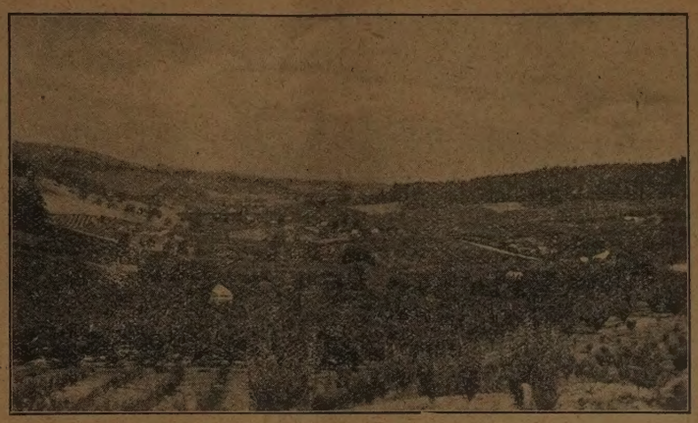
The Royal Hobart Regatta was held on February 21, and attracted a record crowd, weather conditions were almost perfect. As usual, the seamanship displayed in all classes, from cadet dinghies to barges, was of a high order, and the Derwent looked very gay.

There has been a little trouble on the wharf last week owing to the Department of Commerce deciding to enforce a regulation concerning the **thickness of the tops and bottoms of the fruit cases.**

I understand the new regulation provides for tops and bottoms of cases being not more than 3-16ths of an inch in thickness instead of ¼ inch as before for hardwood cases.

As no one appears to have been aware of the alteration, those growers who are using hardwood cases sent them up for shipment as before and the Department detained them, causing unnecessary loss to the growers and inconvenience to all concerned.

However, the Minister for Agriculture (The Hon. Robt. Cosgrove) took the matter up with the authorities in Canberra and I believe has been successful in inducing them to interpret the regulation with discretion. As supplies of case material have to be got in months beforehand to season, any regulation concerning its thickness, etc., should be published a year in advance and not sprung on the growers when the fruit is actually presented.



Panoramic view from Balfes Hill, of Port Cygnet, one of the large fruitgrowing centres of Tasmania.

Departmental Activities

Weather and Crops :: Thinning Pears :: Apples Forward and in Good Condition :: Pest and Disease Control :: Community Packing Houses.

THE Minister for Agriculture (Mr. R. Cosgrove) is in receipt of the following information from the Chief Horticulturist, relative to the condition of orchards during the past month.

Weather and Crops.

Despite dry weather in January, Ribstones, C.O.P., Alfriston and Cleos. are well up to size. Gravensteins have already been harvested, and Worcester Pearmain will also soon be finished. Quality appears to be well up to standard and good prices have been obtained on the interstate market.

Thinning has been carried out extensively and an excellent response obtained, particularly with **Pears**, which are **carrying heavy crops** in most districts. Following the initial thinning of **Winter Cole Pears**, a good response has followed a second thinning, and to a lesser extent this has followed on Beurre Bosc.

In the north the effects of the drought were becoming apparent, but good rains have fallen and the outlook for late varieties is more encouraging. The hail injury in the Spreyton and other northern districts was considerable, and a few southern areas show injury.

Pests and Diseases.

The dry weather almost completely checked earlier outbreaks of Black Spot and loss from this disease is properly sprayed orchards will be negligible. **Applications of colloidal sulphur have given good control of Mildew.** Insect pests are more variable, the dry conditions have favored Red Spider where this pest did not receive Winter treatments; the second brood of Canary Fly is noticeable in some areas and should receive treatment immediately. Codling Moth is less prevalent in most districts than is usually the case, but troublesome infestations have been reported from one or two areas.

Owing to the early maturing of Worcester Pearmains this season, growers have found it necessary to harvest their fruit and cool store it prior to shipment overseas. C.O.P. also appear to be more forward.

There is a noticeable tendency towards community packing and large quantities of marked fruit are being purchased this year to export in long lines for forward sales under a single brand.

The quantity of fruit put up in **standard cases** is likely to once again show a considerable increase. Large quantities of pine case material were imported recently, and most sheds are well stocked.

Brown Rot was not troublesome in **Apricots.** Growers must not, however, be lulled into a sense of false security. They should clean up all possible sources of infection, thus reducing the prospects of a carry-over for next year. All mummied fruits hanging on the trees, all gumming dead spurs and all rejected fruits lying under trees should be removed and destroyed. At the same time limbs suffering from "dieback" may be removed and burnt. Cut these limbs well back into healthy tissue and treat the cut surfaces with the glycerine-mercuric compound previously recommended (formula obtainable on application to the Department of Agriculture).

CENTRAL PACKING SHED.

Activity at Kettering.

Long Lines of Standardised Fruit.

At a well attended meeting of orchardists at Kettering (Tas.) it was decided to move the packing shed from the jetty to the centre of the township.

Mr. J. P. Piggott stated that it was necessary for the fruit to be put through **a central packing shed** to obtain a long line of one brand with a uniform pack. As a result of this the Port Huon Fruitgrowers' Co-operative Association had buyers taking up to 60,000 cases a year, and this year f.o.b. sales were up 20 per cent. on the past year's sales. Many growers signified their intention of packing through the shed if they could dispose of their present plants.

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140,000 CUBIC FEET AVAILABLE FOR

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OF APPLES AND PEARS.

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(See Page 30)

Telegrams "ANGLISSCO" Melbourne Telephone Central 2383

Publications Received

We are in receipt of the February, 1939, Journal of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (quarterly issue). Amongst many matters dealt with are reports of an experiment to detect the possible excretion of nitrogen by leguminous plants, by R. E. Shapter, A.A.C.I., and further free water investigations in Renmark by A. L. Tisdall, M.Agr.Sc.

"Up-to-date Fruit Growing" (by W. E. Shewell-Cooper): This is a simple but comprehensive book giving full particulars as to the latest methods of successful fruitgrowing. The book contains 296 pages, and is illustrated throughout. Various fruits dealt with include Apples, Pears, Plums, Cherries, Apricots, Peaches, Nectarines, Figs, Grapes, Cob Nuts, Filberts, Walnuts, berry fruits, Medlars, Quinces, etc. The publishers are the English Universities Press Ltd., Little Paul's House, Warwick-square, London, E.C.4, England, and the price is 8/6 net.

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MOULD IN COOL STORES.

Readers will recall the lecture, upon the above subject, by Mr. T. O. Mitchell, of Imperial Chemical Industries, which was reported in our January issue. In the advertisement appearing in this issue, the company states that mould can be definitely controlled and prevented by the use of Shirlan in lime wash paints or distempers.

Shirlan has a salicylanilide base, is quite non-poisonous, odorless, and can be used with safety in relation to foodstuffs. Its antiseptic properties apply for a long period after application, and it is sufficiently soluble to allow uniform distribution over a wall surface.

Imperial Chemical Industries invite enquiries from cool store proprietors and engineers as well as growers having their own stores. Their address is 380 Collins-street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Their agents in the various States are:—

Victoria: Ramsay & Treganowan Ltd., 469 Latrobe-street, Melbourne.

N.S.W.: Wm. Cooper & Nephews (Aust.), 4 O'Connell-street, Sydney.

Qld.: A.C.F. and Shirleys Fertilisers Ltd., Little Roma-street, Brisbane.

S.A.: Elder, Smith & Co. Ltd., 27 Currie-street, Adelaide.

W.A.: Elder, Smith & Co. Ltd., 111 St. Georges Terrace, Perth.

N.S.W. FRUIT INDUSTRY INQUIRY.

Commissioner's Report Available.

As we go to press advice is to hand that the report of the Fruit Industry Commissioner, Mr. J. E. McCulloch, has been tabled in the N.S.W. Parliament. Full details will be published next issue.

It is understood the report recommends regulated admission of N.Z. Potatoes with a view to reciprocal trade in Cherries, Bananas, and citrus fruit. The licensing and rigid control of all operations in the Sydney fruit markets; the fixing of retail price of fruit as the average prices between growers and consumer were inequitable. Only 30 per cent. of fruitgrowers were sound financially; 17 per cent. were located on unsuitable soil, and 16 per cent. were inefficient. The chief trouble with the fruit industry was overproduction of poor quality fruit, Mr. McCulloch said.

We are in receipt of "The Australian National Insurance Gazette" dealing with the benefits of national insurance and its success in other parts of the world.

FRUIT POLISHING — FRUIT GRADING — and PACKING HOUSE EQUIPMENT —

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Harvey Model 9.C.C. R.H. Feed Fruitgrader with Elevator and Auto. Hopper.

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4. Elevator delivering fruit on to lower side of belt, thus avoiding damage.
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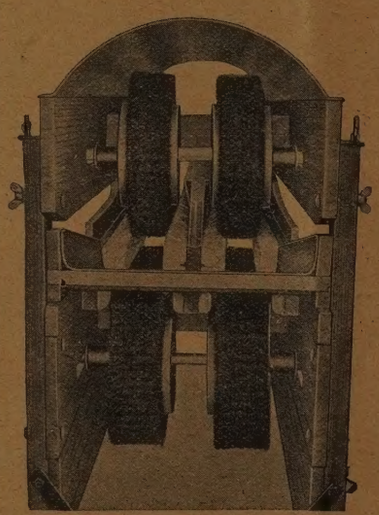

The lower set of brushes traverses in the same direction as the fruit, at a given speed, and the lower side of the top brushes traverses in the opposite direction at half the speed, thus giving a DOUBLE BRUSHING ACTION.

The fruit is in FULL CONTACT with the brushes throughout the process.

The amount of PRESSURE CAN BE REGULATED by lowering or raising the top set of brushes.

The amount of BRUSHING CAN BE REGULATED by running the top brushes faster or slower.

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TOMATO GRADERS	PEAR AND APPLE WASHING MACHINES.	CITRUS PROCESSING PLANTS (Hot or Cold Water).	WAXING PLANTS.
PASSION FRUIT GRADERS	APPLE WIPING MACHINES.		GRAVITY CONVEYORS.
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NEW SOUTH WALES

Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas

SPRAYING AND FUMIGATING FOR RED SCALE — CITRUS CROPS LIGHT — VINE FRUITS SATISFACTORY — IRRIGATION PROBLEMS.

(By Our Correspondent.)

THE month of January was one of intense heat on the Irrigation Areas as elsewhere, and only three days during the month had a lower minimum temperature of less than 90 degs. in the shade official reading, the temperatures ranging from 83.9 to 92.4, while the maximum reached 115.6.

Although this was taken under the most favorable official conditions at the Citrus Research Station, the temperature on shaded verandahs on various parts of the area reached a maximum of 125 degs. F., and as the difference between shade and sun temperatures is considerable, it is not to be wondered at that a severe mortality among that dreaded pest Red Scale, has occurred.

The practice now in California and other parts of the United States where this pest is found, is to give a light spray with oil to the trees about three weeks prior to fumigation.

This has been found most satisfactory, as sometimes the foliage which is crowded too near the fumigation tent is to some extent protected from the fumes, and some authorities give this as the cause of a new infestation, owing to some of the scale insects being protected from the fumes.

The white oil spray on the outside of the trees overcomes this, and where it has been practiced a very excellent result has been noted.

The long spell of heat has probably acted in the place of an oil spray, and on close examination a very great deal, if not all of the insects on the outside of the trees appear to be dead, but where a very close examination of leaves from the inside of the tree has been made, live scale is still to be found, and also minute crawlers.

Growers therefore have now a unique opportunity of eradicating this serious test if they fumigate their trees while the infestation is so much reduced, and most of those citrus growers with large areas are making a clean up.

Special departmental officers have been accompanying the various fumigation gangs at night time, and noting any methods employed, so that if possible, the reason of some of the poor kills in previous seasons may be rectified, and a clean up made.

The general appearance of the citrus all over the area is most marked, the trees being covered with new growth, and doubtless the depletion of the parasitic scale by the heat wave has been some contributing cause to the recovery of trees which on some farms were looking far from healthy some months ago.

The citrus crop generally, however, is light, and with the Navels the tendency will be towards larger fruit; Valencias are somewhat heavier than the Navels, but it is really even yet too early to forecast the crop to the fullest extent, as when the fruit colors a great deal better crop is often noted than when the fruit is green, as often a proportion of the crop is hidden by the leaves.

The crop generally, however, is of excellent quality and will be particularly clean and free from blemish, so far as can be ascertained at present.

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Currant crops have already been picked and in most cases are nearly ready for the packing shed, but the quality is not high, and this crop is very small and will probably be eradicated altogether in the next few seasons, as most growers are dissatisfied with the returns. Sultanas, however, are showing up well, and many excellent crops are to be seen around these areas.

The picking has started, and many full racks are to be seen, while the splendid drying season prevailing should enable the growers to turn out as fine a sample as was produced last year, when the best quality fruit which has been seen for years was processed.

A slight fall of rain, 58 points, the first since last October, fell on the 17th inst. (February), but all Currants were on the racks, and little damage was caused to the Sultana crop.

However, **wine Grape growers** viewed the change of the weather with misgiving as they feared a very heavy downpour, which from all appearances of the weather, appeared likely, but with the exception of the slight fall the weather cleared and was followed by a good drying wind accompanied by cool nights, and no disease or loss among the thin-skinned varieties such as Pedro and Reisling has so far been noted.

A well cultivated Citrus grove on the same property.

The depredation of Starlings has caused damage in some of the outlying portions of the area, but generally a very fine crop is anticipated of all varieties, and some exceptional crops of Black Shiraz have been noted in the Yenda Area, and also Dorodillos.

Muscats (Gordo Blanco) have largely been picked and forwarded as fresh Grapes to the Sydney market, as owing to the scarcity of fruit in other districts there has been a great demand for both fruit and vegetables from the Irrigation Areas, and large consignments have been sent away and prices received have been better than in former years. Very large quantities of **Rock Melons and Cantaloupes** are being grown, also, but even with the supplies available from our favored areas, the large importation of vegetables of all sorts from New Zealand is noted, showing that there is still a marked shortage of certain varieties.

The likelihood of the supply of Irrigation water being cut off from the large area farms, is still a burning question, and important meetings at both Leeton and Griffith have been held.

After the conference held at Leeton it has been decided by the Irrigation Commission that supplies to Rice farmers will be cut off after the end of the present month, in order to safeguard the interests of the fruit growers, but if heavy rain does not fall in the catchment area of Burrinjuck reservoir even the look-out for fruitgrowers is serious.

Rice is only an annual crop and takes a large amount of water to bring to maturity, but the reconstruction of a fruit orchard is a more serious problem to contemplate, and the soils of these areas except in very favorable portions, is not like the deep sandy loams of the Murray River valley which has far more retentive properties than these shallower and heavier soils which require water applied far oftener than in other irrigation areas.

So far no restrictions have been placed on the fruitgrowers, and all live in hope that the looked-for rain will fall, but if it does not, then the industry which brings in the greatest amount of money to these areas must be the one first to be considered, and the preservation of orchards is of paramount importance.

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The Leeton Cannery, although not working at full pressure is now processing **Pears** and intermediate **Peaches,** such as Pelora, Selma, and some Golddust, and the sample being put up is of excellent quality.

A considerable amount of Gordo Grapes have also been canned, and verp large alterations and improvements have been made both to the buildings and the machinery.

Large stocks of **Apricots** are on hand, and when the Golden Queen and Pullar crops are in full swing the accommodation will be taxed to its fullest extent.

A good many growers are also growing the **Tomato** for canning purposes, and in time it is expected that other products will be processed in order to keep the cannery going in slack months.

The long period of droughty conditions has shown up the immense value of the irrigation areas, and buyers looking for properties are often to be seen coming in from outback drier districts.

There is room for expansion in many different lines, and one that may yet assume large proportions is the Soya Bean.

This valuable product is as yet in its infancy in Australia, but is being experimented with and from results already obtained shows promise for expansion.

9-year-old Grapefruit tree at the orchard of G. W. and F. G. Beverley, Griffith, N.S.W.

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Unfortunately many of the excellent pastures which have been established during past years have suffered heavily through the shortage of water, and it is a pitiful sight to see large areas drying off and dying when the advent of water would mean thousands of pounds to many farmers, but the water must be limited when the supply is inadequate, and if the Rice crops are to be matured some other line must be sacrificed.

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The Apple crop being a very light one, and fruit in good demand, a good many growers have cleaned up their crops and sent the fruit to market for cookers, while the smaller red Apples will all probably be sent to the factories for jam.

Pears.

A considerable quantity of Packhams have already been packed for export, and further consignments will follow in due course. Both Williams and Packham and Josephine crops are excellent, and the Josephines are particularly large this season, all fruit being very free from codling moth where the regulations have been observed and spraying carefully carried out, and it is obvious that if proper care and cultural methods are adopted, this pest can readily be kept in check.

Prunes.

Picking has already commenced, but some of the earlier falls are not up to standard, but the fruit now being processed has benefited by the thinning out and previous fall, and both the crop of Robes (which is light) and the D'Agen, of which there is a heavy crop, will yield large and fleshy fruit.

Wine Grapes.

A fairly heavy vintage is anticipated, and some exceptionally heavy crops are noted.

Quinces.

Crop good to heavy and most of the fruit will go to the various canneries at satisfactory prices.

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SULPHATE of AMMONIA is INDISPENSABLE in a WELL-KEPT ORCHARD

H1/36

BANANAS AND PINEAPPLES IN N.S.W.

In the last report to hand from the N.S.W. Dept. of Agriculture, the following is stated:

Bananas.

On most plantations in the Lismore district the thin and badly filled August fruit is almost finished. The better class September and October Bananas will be coming forward in good quantities and should include some quality lots.

Top grade fruit is very scarce in the Ballina locality, and only moderate consignments are expected to be forwarded during February. Recent heavy rains were very beneficial, and crops are responding well.

Hot winds in conjunction with excessive heat caused heavy losses in many parts of the Macksville district. Growers complain of the collapse of stalks through heat, and bunches being scorched. The rains received during late January were most useful, but the outlook for fruit for February is said to be poor.

Lighter supplies are expected from the Lower Tweed area. Bunches now appearing are showing the effects of the prolonged dry spell.

Pineapples.

Summer crops of fair quality fruit are now ripening around Lismore, but the bulk will be consumed locally.

Harvesting has commenced on the Lower Richmond. There are prospects of good to heavy marketing, but the fruit is inclined to be small.

Satisfactory crops are being cut at Terranora and Banora Point, on the Lower Tweed, but sunburn is responsible for losses in a number of plantations.

ARBITRATION COURT.

Fruit Preservers Award Applies to all Employees, Whether Unionists or Not.

Recently an application was made to Judge Piper in the Commonwealth Arbitration Court by the Fruit Preservers' Union of Australia for an order binding all employers to pay employees, whether members of the union or not, the rates and conditions of the Federal award.

His Honor granted a brief adjournment while both parties conferred, and after half an hour's informal discussion it was announced that a settlement had been made, and the details submitted to his Honor. It was then intimated that he would grant an order binding all respondents to observe the conditions of the award, whether employees were members of the union or not.

CHERRIES IN BRINE.

Substantial Industry Developing at Orange, N.S.W.

Exports to New Zealand.

CHERRIES IN BRINE are now being produced by the Orange Producers' Co. at Orange, N.S.W. A consignment of 4¼ tons was recently despatched to N. Zealand.

It is hoped this may lead to the expansion of an infant industry which, in its first year, has assumed large dimensions.

After being in progress only four months, there are about 50 people already employed. At present the process works have stored over 440 tons of brined Cherries, every ton of which, it is expected, will meet with a ready demand.

This quantity of fruit represents the major portion of the White Cherry crop of the Orange district for the season just concluded. The continuity of the demand and the processing will, according to the manager, maintain the staff at maximum capacity throughout the Winter.

N.S.W.

Burrinjuck Dam Water Will be Reserved for Orchards.

Replying to a deputation of Leeton horticulturists, Mr. W. Rawlings, Irrigation Commissioner, said recently that the Water Conservation Commission had established a reserve in Burrinjuck sufficient for horticulturists. When the water in the reservoir reached a certain level, dependent on the absence of rain, supplies to Rice crops would be cut off.

Mr. C. R. Glover, secretary of the Fruitgrowers' Co-operative Society, said that deciduous trees required water after the crop had been removed. Citrus also required watering in the middle of May.

Mr. Rawlings said that before drastic action was taken by the Commission, another conference of all interests would be called.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

For the year ending June 30, 1938, the production of Bananas in Western Australia was 15,510 tropical cases—a decrease of 5,561 cases on the previous year.

The progress in tropical agriculture in W. Aust. is fully reported in the annual report of the W. Aust. Dept. of Agriculture. The fruits produced include Bananas, Pineapples, Papaws, Citrus, Grapes, Dates, Figs and Mangoes. Greater attention, however, has been paid to Beans, Tomatoes, Pumpkins and Potatoes.

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N.S.W. Fruit Crops

APPLES, LIGHT — PEARS, LIGHT TO MEDIUM — FRUIT SMALL — VERY LITTLE EXPORT.

THE hot and very dry weather which has been experienced in most of the main growing areas of the State has resulted in defoliation and sun scald. Conditions are particularly unfavorable for the development of Apples and Pears, and small sizes will predominate. A hail storm in the Kentucky area resulted in the injury of from 25 to 75 per cent. of the crops.

This information is contained in the latest report to hand from the Director of Marketing, N.S.W. Dept, of Agriculture (Mr. A. A. Watson). Continuing, the report states:

Apples.

Albury: Granny Smith fairly good, but Jons. and Romes bad, Dunns and London Pippin very small.

Batlow: Fruit small; commenced harvesting London Pippins, Jons. expected earlier than usual; Granny Smith and Delicious should reach satisfactory size.

Bathurst, Blue Mountains: Prospects good for Jons, Granny Smith, Rome Beauty and London Pippin around Shipley; Delicious, Romes, Tasma and Granny Smith should develop well in the Ilford district. In other areas the fruit is generally undersized.

Orange: Granny Smith, Jons. and Tasma crops good to excellent; Delicious, London Pippin and Pomme de Neige medium to good; Romes and other varieties are poor. Conditions are bad in the March and Borenore districts, and good around Pinnacle, Tower, Cargs Road, and Canabolor, where 3in. of rain have fallen.

Southern Tableland: Very dry weather, excessive heat, and severe winds have been experienced in most centres. Jons. are satisfactory, and Delicious and Granny Smith medium to good at Tallong. Other varieties moderate. Crookwell suffered from a wind storm and bushfires swept the Penrose district. At Yass, Granny Smith and Delicious are fairly good; Jons. small and immature.

Northern Tableland: Granny Smith are satisfactory; Jons. small but of good quality and color; Democrat, Sturmer, Romes, King David and Delicious should be medium to large; Granny Smith, Tasma, Romes, Delicious and McIntosh Red are satisfactory at Arding.

Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area: Sun scald considerable — results of temperatures reading to 115 deg. McIntosh Red, Jons., King David and Cleo. poor.

Camden: Granny Smith, Jons., McIntosh Red showing sun scald, and in some cases internal breakdown is reported. At Wedderburn, Granny Smith are fair.

Pears.

Batlow: Harvesting of Williams almost completed: fruit satisfactory size. Beurre Bosc and Packhams maturing; Winter Coles sizing.

Bathurst: Owing to lack of rain early varieties did not size and prospects are similar for later varieties.

Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area: Williams, Packhams and Josephine at Griffith, good to heavy. Packhams and Williams sizing slowly at Yenda. Harvesting of Williams for canning commenced at Leeton.

Southern Tableland: Packhams, Winter Cole, Winter Nelis and Williams well cropped around Tallong; Beurre Bosc light. A windstorm at Yass reduced Williams Crop about 40 per cent.

Orange: Good crops of Williams, Packhams and Caps. Howells, Winter Nelis and Winter Coles moderate; Bosc patchy.

Northern Tableland: Packhams small around Armidale. Williams, Packhams, Josephine and Bosc satisfactory at Kentucky. Williams small at Arding.

SEASONAL FORECASTING.

Considerable interest has been aroused by the method of seasonal forecasting adopted by Mr. Inigo Jones, F.R.A.S., F.R.Met.Soc., Crohamhurst Observatory, Queensland.

The methods adopted by Mr. Inigo Jones apparently did not meet with the favor of the recent Science Congress at Canberra, and the attitude of the Science Congress aroused quite a storm of protest. A committee has since been appointed to enquire into the merits of the method adopted by Mr. Jones.

PAINT FOR IRON ROOFS.

Old galvanised roofs may be renovated with an easily applied paint made up with 8 ozs. of Portland cement, 1½ ozs. green chromium oxide and ½ pint boiled linseed oil. Keep it well stirred and apply only in warm weather. The cost is approximately 9/- per gallon.

HANDLING MANGOES.

Careful Picking and Packing Essential.

MANGOES are becoming more popular, and to assist in maintaining progress in this direction, Mr. R. G. Kelly, orchardist at the Grafton Experiment Farm, supplies the following advice in the "N.S.W. Agricultural Gazette":—

Harvesting.

Only mature fruit should be pulled. Immature fruit does not ripen properly, is deficient in flavor, and is one of the worst forms of advertisement for a fruit still making its way in public favor.

Careful handling cannot be overemphasised. Bruising occurs very easily and will show up badly on ripening.

Shallow containers, preferably baskets, should be used when picking, or a kerosene tin with the side cut out and fitted with handles is quite good. A good padding of straw or grass should be placed in the bottom. Boxes used for taking fruit to the shed should also be padded heavily on the bottom. Fruit should be placed in containers, not dropped in.

Packing.

Wipe off milky sap with a damp cloth. This prevents stains. **Correct sizing is most important and facilitates packing.** Tomato cases 18 inches long x 7⅛ inches deep x 8 2/3 inches wide will be most convenient in all respects, particularly as the weight of fruit per case is better regulated than with the bushel size.

A thin layer of straw on the bottom and occasionally in the corners as the pack comes up, helps towards a tight pack. **Fruit must not be packed loosely or above the top of the case.** A pad of straw on top will protect from bumps and hold the pack firmly.

A distinct advantage is gained by using new clean cases, lined with white paper and neatly stencilled or labelled. Packed cases must be stacked on their sides, not on the ends or tops.

BURRINJUCK WATER SHORTAGE

Rice Growers Alarmed.

Great anxiety is felt in the Leeton area where Rice growers are threatened with the cutting off of water from the Burrinjuck Dam. This action seems inevitable as water is going out at the rate of 825,000,000 gallons a day, and only 27,500,000,000 gallons remain.

Mr. A. D. Mackellar, president of the Rice-growers' organisation at Leeton, announced that any action by the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission to cut off water to the Rice fields would be legally contested.

Queensland

Bananas, Pineapples, Tomatoes, Etc.

Half Share Purchased in Pineapple Cannery.

QUITE a little flutter was caused when "Truth" newspaper published an attack on the Committee of Direction for Fruit Marketing, Brisbane, relative to their purchase of a half share in the Brisbane Pineapple Cannery.

The manager of the C.O.D. gave an effective reply, pointing out that the action was taken at the request of the producers.

Bananas.

Queensland Bananas may be marketed as bunches or in cases. The C.O.D. published a direction in early February withdrawing a previous direction relative to the method of marketing Bananas. The Committee states it was never their intention to interfere with the growers' choice in marketing the Bananas in the bunch or in the case, and a direction has been issued accordingly.

Tomatoes.

Regarding control of Tomato marketing, facilities were offered for conducting a poll as to the method for handling Tomatoes, but as no poll was requested, a direction was issued to the effect that when the market price of "A" grade Tomatoes in Brisbane failed to realise more than 4/6 per half case gross, lower grade Tomatoes were not to be forwarded from the Wallangarra, Dalveen, Amiens and Fleurbaix areas.

The Tomatoes not to be forwarded included the following:—(i) Any "B" grade Tomatoes; (ii) Any "small" "A" grade Tomatoes; (iii) Any "2 inch" "A" grade Tomatoes; (iv) Any "2¼ inch" "A" grade Tomatoes.

Juice Apples.

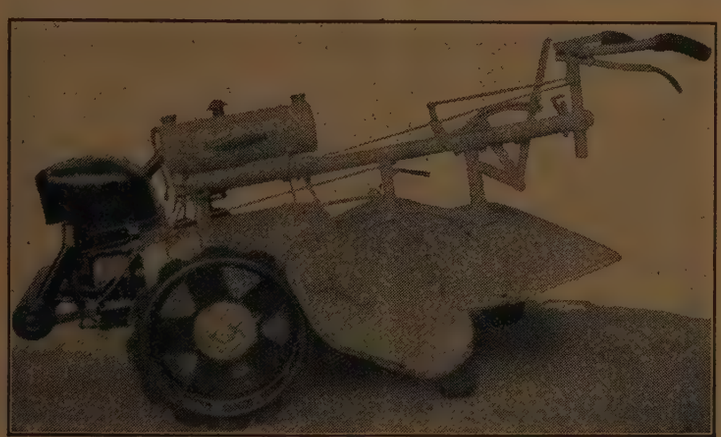
It is understood that whereas early in the season insufficient Apples for juice purposes were not sent forward, this matter has since been adjusted and no further juice Apples will be required this season.

Pineapple Juice.

Queensland Canneries Pty. Ltd. is manufacturing an excellent Pineapple juice which will certainly prove to be popular. The juice is packed free from preservative, and the true Pineapple flavor is retained. Each tin contains 14 ozs. of pure juice, and by the addition of water, three glasses or more of a delicious Summer drink can be obtained from the one tin.

In order to popularise the juice, special arrangements have been made with the cannery for case lots containing four dozen 14 oz. tins at 14/- per case f.o.b. Brisbane.

Railway rates provide for a minimum charge of 1/9, which will carry a single case a distance of 635 miles.



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Northern Tasmanian Representative	Bell & Gerrard, No. 200 Cimitiere St., Launceston.
West Australian Representative	The Westralian Farmers Ltd., Perth.

Thus the cost, up to a distance of 635 miles, is just under 4/- per dozen, or 4d. for three glasses or more of a satisfying and healthful drink.

Orders for prompt despatch will be accepted by the C.O.D.

QUEENSLAND.

Flat Freight Rate for Pineapples.

Following on a combined drive by the C.O.D., the Railway Department, and the Department of Agriculture, it has been announced that single half-bushel, bushel, and one and a half bushel size cases of smoothleaf Pine apples will be sent to any centre in Queensland at a flat rate of 1/1. The prices are:—One and a half bushel case, 6/6; bushel case, 5/6; half bushel case, 3/9, delivered to any railway station in Queensland. The freight concession operates from February 13 to April 30 inclusive.

QUEENSLAND.

Apple Export.

Owing to unfavorable conditions, the total quantity of Apples for export to U.K. will be reduced to about 18,000 cases.

The first export consignment of Apples for the year left Brisbane by the "Tuscan Star" on February 13 for U.K., 4,727 cases being shipped —1,865 of Jonathans, 1,985 of Granny Smiths, and 877 of Dunns.

On February 24 more than 7,000 cases were loaded into the "Sussex" at Newstead for U.K. The "Nieuw Holland" took several thousand for the East.

CORK INSULATION.

For Many Purposes.

All varieties of cork insulation are prepared by W. H. Brewer Pty. Ltd., whose advertisement appears in this issue. Not only primary, but also secondary industries share in the contribution by cork products. Sound proofing of machinery and industrial plants is becoming increasingly recognised by engineers and builders. Insulation cork is now used for formulations for heavy machinery to lessen vibration and noise.

In the fruit industry, cool storage sheds insulated with Brewer's "Zeristo" brand cork products maintain better uniform temperatures, either in the slab form or granulated cork. Cork, being impervious to moisture conditions, is therefore much superior to shavings and, by giving the insulation longer life and checking leakages, cork becomes more economical.

For packing fruit for long distance delivery nothing is better than granulated cork as has been proved by many Grape exporters.

Any information desired regarding any phase of insulation or sound proofing, also quotes and specifications to suit particular circumstances will be gladly supplied by Brewers, of Blackwood-street, North Melbourne, near the Haymarket, or by telephoning F 2058 or F 6452.

IMPERIAL FRUIT SHOW.

London, November, 1939.

The 1939 Imperial Fruit Show is to be held at the Horticultural Halls, Westminster, London, either from November 13, or 14, to Saturday, November 18, 1939; the opening day has not yet been finally settled.

Canned Fruits Export

1939 Season's Minimum Prices for U.K.

THE undermentioned minimum prices and related selling conditions have been prescribed by the Australian Canned Fruits Board for sales of **canned Apricots, Peaches and Pears** for shipment to the United Kingdom, and in connection with the issue of export licenses under the Canned Fruits Export Control Act 1926-1938:—

Minimum Prices:	Apricots.		Peaches.		Pears.	
	No. 2½'s.	No. 1's.	No. 2½'s.	No. 1's.	No. 2½'s.	No. 1's.
Choice	7/6	4/10½	6/7½	4/4	7/10½	5/–
Standard	7/–	4/7½	6/1½	4/1	7/4½	4/9
Seconds	6/6	—	5/7½	—	6/10½	—

Prices are in English currency, and are on the basis of per dozen tins, c.i.f. U.K. Conference ports.

Minimum Parcels and Quantitative Discounts:

For territory other than Scotland and Northern Ireland, the prices are net for parcels of not less than 1,000 cases, which is the minimum quantity for which orders are to be accepted. To individual buyers of parcels of not less than 5,000 cases, in one lot, a discount not exceeding 5 per cent. may be given.

For Scotland and Northern Ireland, the minimum prices as quoted also apply. The terms, however, are net for parcels of not less than 100 cases, and a discount not exceeding 2½ per cent. may be given in respect to a sale of not less than 1,000 cases, placed by any individual buyer. Buyers of 5,000 cases, in one lot, may be paid a discount not exceeding 3 per cent.

The following additional quantitative discounts also may be given:—

To a buyer whose purchases on his own behalf aggregate not less than 25,000 cases during 1939:— ½ per cent.

To a buyer whose purchases on his own behalf aggregate not less than 50,000 cases during 1939:— A further ½ per cent.

Exporters and their agents are expected to exercise reasonable care to ensure that sales are not made to a buyer acting on behalf of two or more distributors with the object of qualifying for these extra discounts. Syndicating of orders or group buying, if proved to the satisfaction of the Board, or any person or persons appointed to act on behalf of the Board, will entail forfeiture of these discounts.

Contracts:

Exporters and their U.K. agents are required to use a uniform sales contract, viz., the Australian (British Isles) Canned Fruits Contract. The wording of the 1938 contract has recently been reviewed by a committee of London agents of exporters appointed by this Board: details will be available shortly.

The special reselling conditions which formed a supplement to the Australian (British Isles) Canned Fruits Contract has been amended to provide for the restoration of a 500 case "step" in the distributors' reselling prices. This involved addition in price in the re-selling scale in respect to all grades and sizes.

Fall Clause:

Contracts may include the fall-in-price clause, protecting buyers against decline in price up to, but not later than date of arrival of vessel at port of discharge nominated by the buyer.

Deliveries:

Until further advised, the final date of shipment against orders is September 30, 1939.

Consignments:

No shipments on a consignment basis are to be made, unless in exceptional circumstances, and then only with the approval of this Board. Applications for permission to consign canned fruits should reach this office at least ten days before proposed date of shipment, and should be supported with a statement setting out the reasons why such shipment is desired.

The foregoing minimum prices, etc., operate as from February 15, 1939; exporters and their U.K. agents will be promptly advised of any alteration made thereto.

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Commenting on the foregoing prices, the secretary of the Australian Canned Fruits Board (Mr. W. J. Adams) points out that the only changes are in 30-oz. tins of Peaches and Pears, prices of which have been increased by 1½d. and 3d. per doz. respectively over all grades. These increases were due to a decline in production, together with the statistically sound position of stocks in the United States, the chief competitor. Apricot prices were not altered, although the pack this year is estimated at 275,000 cases, against 380,000 cases for last season.

Pears and Peaches would be less than last season, although the figures were not yet known.

Latest Export Figures

The Australian Canned Fruits Board gives the following summary of the exports of canned fruits from Australia to January 31, 1939:—

Country.	Apricots.	Peaches.	Pears.	Fruit-salad.	Pine-apples.	Total.
	Cases.	Cases	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.
U.K.	675	10,103	3,625	—	1,000	15,403
N.Z.	85	255	1	—	—	341
Canada	300	130	—	255	315	1,000
East	139	813	465	124	21	1,562
Miscellaneous	68	126	185	7	10	396
Total	1,267	11,427	4,276	386	1,346	18,702

Overseas News and Notes

Fruit and Vegetable Canning in Canada.

At a recent Canners' Convention held at Toronto, resolutions were carried requesting continued experimental work on the so-called **Jan-Ru Tomato**, and that experiments be carried on to try to find varieties suitable for canning for the British market.

The convention requested the cancellation of the sales tax on all canned foods, and the sugar tax on sugar used in canning, in order to place canned foods on the same basis as most other foods. Further, that the Farm Products Control Board should not put into effect any more marketing schemes on produce for canning, as those in effect last season were not satisfactory, and until final results from present schemes can be more definitely ascertained.

FROZEN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Sales Are Increasing.

The sale of fruit products in frosted or frozen form has now assumed substantial proportions. These products are held in refrigeratel display cases in retail shops in U.S.A. and Canada.

The foods observed in a Montreal store recently included Strawberries, Raspberries, Sliced Peaches, Sweet Cherries, Blueberries, Peas, Green and Wax Beans, Spinach, Cut Corn, Corn on Cob, Asparagus, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts and Cauliflowers.

APPLE JUICE IN U.S.A.

The Newest Taste in Drinks.

Apple juice, hermetically sealed and canned, containing no chemical preservatives, additional sugar, artificial coloring or flavoring matter, is being introduced to soda fountain operators in U.S.A. The juice is pasteurised by a method which retains the essentials which give the fruit is flavor and aroma. Pectin naturally present in the juice is carefully retained. Fountain operators can serve this palatable beverage with all the freshness that it had at the moment it was pressed from the ripened fruit.

APPLES, PEARS, PLUMS, CHERRIES
PEACHES, APRICOTS, CITRUS Etc.

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CANNING MANDARINS IN JAPAN

Skins Removed by Chemical Process.

Information recently compiled by the Imperial Bureau of Horticulture (Eng.), was to the effect that the type of Mandarin most favored by Japanese canners has the thinnest possible skin, ensuring a larger fruit content, and when peeled, nine large segments of deep bright color. The fruit is stored before sending to the cannery. This has the advantage of making the flesh of the segments firmer and eliminating chances of deformation in the tin, which destroys the clarity of the syrup.

The processes include grading, peeling, and segmenting before chemical treatment. The chemical treatment is necessary to remove the skin from the segments and consists in immersion for 20-40 seconds in 3 per cent. solution of caustic soda heated nearly to boiling point, followed by washing to remove any alkaline residue. Segments are then graded into three sizes, quality depending on uniformity and color which should be bright golden. The cans are filled with water before packing, which flows out as the segments are filled in, superfluous water being drained out before syruping. Sterilization takes 12 minutes in a number 5 can. It is stated that the canning of Mandarins in Japan was stagnant until the introduction from California in 1926 of the chemical method of skinning which replaced the laborious and unsatisfactory hand method.

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CANNED FRUITS.

1,000,000 Cases of Canned Fruits Will be Sold to Britain by End of Month.

Business in Australian fruits in the United Kingdom already confirmed since prices were announced in mid-February, has aggregated 500,000 cases, and when all returns are completed by the end of February, it is expected the totals will be about 1,000,000 cases.

Announcing this recently, the Secretary of the Australian Canned Fruit Board (Mr. W. J. Adams) stated that the figures were most satisfactory and compared more than favorably with opening sales last year. Prices were fully competitive with Californian.

The fruits comprised canned Apricots, Peaches and Pears, and they would be distributed widely throughout the United Kingdom.

Mr. Adams added that the canning of Apricots was completed, apart from Tasmania, and processing of Pears was well advanced, and the main crop of Peaches would reach the canneries about the middle of next month.

Australasian and New Zealand Shippers

. . . wishing their fruit to be handled in the largest and most up-to-date premises in Covent Garden, should consign their APPLES, PEARS, PLUMS or ORANGES to:—

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At Southampton also a programme of re-building and modernization has been completed, placing at the disposal of our senders the most spacious warehouses in that port.

We would remind exporters desirous of shipping to Bristol, Liverpool, Hull and Glasgow that we are established at all these centres.

Special Department for the sale of Canned and Dried Fruits and Fruit Pulp at 46 Fish Street Hill, London, E.C.3.

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Joint Tasmanian:

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CLEMENTS & MARSHALL, P.O. Box 86, Devonport.

VICTORIA: MR. C. S. ANDREW, 153 William Street, Melbourne.

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IN THE LAND OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS.

WE acknowledge receipt of a special Australian souvenir issue of "International Trail" describing with many illustrations the natural resources of this great country.

The pictorial map of Australia in the cover design shows the physical divisions of the continent and its agricultural, horticultural, pastoral and mining activities. The cartographer has given an airman's view of the continent and its surrounding seas and islands projected over the curved service of the globe.

This souvenir booklet is excellently illustrated, the scenic views of Australian primary and manufacturing industries are a splendid tribute to the continent of Australia.

The booklet, which was issued by the International Harvester Organisation of Chicago, U.S.A., is devoted entirely to Australia. It was originally planned by the International Organisation to devote only a section of the issue to Australia, but the photographs and other material which was prepared by Mr. J. R. Fletcher, advertising manager of the International Harvester Company of Australia in collaboration with two members of his staff, Mr. W. J. Barry and Mr. J. M. Gibson, were so interesting that it was decided to devote the whole of the book to Australia.

An enormous amount of research work was entailed in the preparation of information regarding Australian primary and manufacturing industries, which is presented in a concise form. On page four figures are published showing the agricultural production of the Commonwealth consisting of grain, hay, fruit, vegetables, and is valued at £91,403,000 annually. This production is derived from an area of crops amounting to 20,602,595 acres, the total area under cultivation being 45,515,264 acres.

Figures are also given regarding pastoral production, number of live stock, mineral production, and the factories operating in Australia.

The letterpress and illustrations cover the whole field of Australian transportation and industry, not only in the cities and developed country districts, but also in the remote regions of the great inland.

As many copies of this souvenir booklet have been distributed throughout all parts of the world, it should prove an excellent advertising medium for Australian primary and manufacturing industries and Australian development generally.

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South Australian News and Notes

INCLUDING OFFICIAL NOTES AND REPORTS FROM THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUITGROWERS' & MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.

The South Australian Fruitgrowers' & Market Gardeners' Association Incorp.

MONTHLY EXECUTIVE MEETING

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the S.A. Fruitgrowers and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp. held its monthly meeting on February 24, 1939, at 288a Rundle-street, Adelaide.

The President (Mr. W. J. Bishop) presided over the meeting, which was attended by Messrs. A. Elliott, F. Hughes, A. J. Hollister, H. W. Parsons, R. A. Cramond, G. Clifton, G. H. Schultz, H. N. Wicks, J. B. Randell, C. J. Pitt, C. Jennings, C. Ridley, R. Hunter, L. J. Wicks, J. Turner, H. J. Walker, S. M. James, G. T. Pitt, M. J. Vickers, W. Ind, and Secretary. Apologies were received from Messrs. E. L. Giles and N. T. Hobbs.

The minutes were taken as read and confirmed.

It was reported that a reply in the affirmative from the Adelaide Fruit and Produce Exchange had been received following our request to be granted permission to erect a blackboard in the market whereon fixed prices may be submitted to growers.

Prescribed Prices for Canning and Jam Manufacture: Mr. F. Hughes moved that "The Association protest to Fruit Industry Sugar Commission concerning the low prices fixed this season for canning Peaches." Seconded Mr. A. Elliott. Carried.

Correspondence: S.A. Govt. Tourist Bureau, requesting assistance in mapping out an itinerary covering market gardens, etc., for a party of Tasmanian tourists late in April.

Resolved that the Chairman and Secretary furnish the information required.

The Town Clerk of Adelaide, concerning the stamping of weights and measures. Received.

S.A. Fruitmarketing Association re the nomination of Mr. J. H. Dunning as a member of the State Advisory Committee on Eastern trade.

Resolved that approval of the nomination be conveyed to S.A. Fruit Marketing Association.

Producers' Cold Storage Ltd. relative to stacking of fruit. This was in reply to a letter from the Association protesting against the present method employed.

Mr. R. Cramond moved "That a sub-committee interview the Board of the Cold Stores." Seconded Mr. F. Hughes.

Resolved that the sub-committee consist of Chairman, Secretary, Messrs. F. Hughes, A. Elliott, L. J. Wicks.

Barossa Fruitgrowers' Association concerning a reformation of a branch of this Association. The Chairman and Secretary have advised of their willingness to address the Barossa Association on a date to be fixed.

Uraidla Show: The Chairman reported that the Secretary had forwarded a donation to the Uraidla Show Committee, and Mr. F. Hughes moved "That the action be endorsed." Seconded Mr. L. J. Wicks. Carried.

Mr. R. A. Cramond, Chairman of the Show Society, thanked the Association for its support.

Water Committee: Mr. A. W. G. Pitt, a member of the Water Committee, reported on the Committee's conference with the heads of the Water Works Dept. relative to future Summer water in the River Torrens. The request of the Committee had been that the natural flow be permitted as from October 1 of each year instead of November 1, as at present. The Department agreed that the natural flow take place from October 15 of each year until April 15 the next year, subject to a satisfactory arrangement between the two bodies. Mr. F. Hughes moved "That the matter be referred back to the Water Committee for a further report." Seconded Mr. L. J. Wicks. Carried.

Organiser: The Chairman reported that since the last meeting the sub-committee had appointed Mr. R. F. Warren as organiser. Mr. C. Pitt moved "That the sub-committee action be approved." Seconded Mr. G. Jennings. Carried.

A report on his activities was received from Mr. Warren.

Sectional Reports.

Potato: Mr. J. B. Randell reported that the Potato Section Committee had met that morning and considered it necessary to send a delegate to attend the Federal Committee to be held in Melbourne on March 7.

Mr. C. Ridley moved "That the Delegates' expenses be met by the Association." Seconded Mr. W. Ind. Carried.

Apple Section: Mr. M. Vickers reported that price fixing had commenced, and arrangements for Apple export were well in hand. A notice had been received by grower members of the Executive of S.A.F.M.A. to attend a meeting that day to nominate names for the appointment of growers' representative on the Export Control Board. He considered the notice too short for such a vital matter, and also that all growers and not a few should be allowed to decide nominations.

Mr. Turner moved "That this Association recommends that meeting be deferred until such time as the whole industry can voice its opinion." Seconded Mr. S. James. Carried.

National Insurance: Mr. J. Turner brought forward for further discussion the affect of National Insurance upon the industry should it be adopted. He moved "That S.A. Federal Members be written protesting against the imposition on the Primary Producers. Seconded Mr. F. Hughes. Carried.

Finance: The Secretary submitted the financial statement, and presented accounts for payment.

Blackboard in Markets: Resolved that the various Sectional Chairmen confer on the type of blackboard to be erected.

PERSONAL

Mr. A. G. Strickland, Chief Horticulturist, sailed on the "Stratheden" from the Outer Harbor on Thursday, February 23 last, for the United Kingdom.

While in England, Mr. Strickland will study the marketing of Australian fruit.

On the same boat was Mr. J. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture (Victoria), who is on a similar mission.

Members of the S.A. Dept. of Agriculture, and Chairman and Secretary of the S.A. Fruitgrowers and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp. were at the ship's side to wish Mr. Strickland "bon voyage."

* * *

Messrs. M. Packer (Chairman), and G. J. Strange (Committeeman) of the Celery Section of the S.A. Fruitgrowers and Market Gardeners' Association, left by express on February 26 for the Eastern capitals. While in the East they will make arrangements for the forthcoming season of S.A. Celery.

* * *

Mr. C. Stanford, Chairman of the Tomato Section, is at present on a tour of the Eastern States.

MARKET NOTES

The dry conditions over the past few months plus the excessive heat has resulted in a shortage of most vegetables this year, and prices reached a very high level.

Small rain gaugings during February, however, has slightly improved the position, but most commodities still remain in short supply, and prices show very little variation.

Fruit supplies have also been affected by the abnormal weather conditions, the Apple crop principally being affected. Apple export will commence from S.A. during the first week of March.

Export of early Celery has commenced, and the Celery Section is now completing arrangements for the official opening of the season shortly.

During March, Mr. C. W. McRostie, the Melbourne Market Representative, will visit Adelaide, and will address annual meetings of the Celery, Tomato and Cherry Sections, and meet the Committees of other Sections and Branches.

Growers along the River Torrens between the Paradise Bridge and the Torrens Lake, have been affected over the past few weeks by the shortage of water in the river. A deputation from the Association consisting of Messrs. C. Abbott, F. K. Niess, M.Ps., and Messrs. W. H. Ind, N. T. Hobbs (Executive), and A. Stuart (Secretary), waited on the Commissioner of Public Works on February 15, to see if it was possible to obtain a flush down the river. The deputation was successful in obtaining a small flush, which, however, did not reach far below the Paradise Bridge.

The Water Committee, consisting of Messrs. W. H. Ind, A. W. C. Pitt, W. H. Pitman, and the Secretary, later conferred with the Water Works Department re supplies in future Summers, and it is hoped that the natural flow down the river will be allowed earlier than previously.

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VEGETABLES A FEATURE AT URAIDLA.

Show Opened by Premier.

Wonderful vegetables and good ring events were the main features of the fifty-sixth annual Uraidla show, opened by the Premier (Mr. Playford) on February 18. Mr. Playford said it was a wonderful show in the face of difficulties, for the fact that vegetables were for once at a payable price was an indication of how unfavorable the season had been.

Despite the season, vegetable entries showed an increase, and the quality was little below that of previous years, reflecting great credit on the exhibitors of the prominent market gardening district.

At the official luncheon the toast of "The Premier" was proposed by Mr. H. L. Spring, who said the district was proud to have Mr. Playford as a Minister, but doubly so for him to be Premier, particularly as he was the first returned soldier to hold the position. They were also pleased to welcome Mr. Stacey, M.H.R., Messrs. Homburg, Young, Halleday and Cowan, M's.L.C., and Mr. Shannon, M.P. In responding, Mr. Playford said he hoped his work as Premier would be a credit to the district and the State. He knew of no other district which could put up such a display of vegetables, and it was worth noting that the exhibits all came from within the district.

"Our Society" was proposed by Mr. Homburg, M.L.C., who has been a member since 1906, and the President (Mr. R. Cramond) responded, "Lady Helpers" was proposed by Mr. R. J. Cobbledick and responded to by Miss E. Day.

The Secretary (Mr. H. E. Schultz) said that vegetable entries were up on last year, but fruit and flowers were down. Cookery and fancy work numbers were well up, and the ring events were probably a record. The gate takings of £60 showed a £10 increase.

Vegetables, Fruit and Flowers.

A wonderful display of vegetables was judged by Messrs. W. J. Wightman and R. S. Tilley, who said that considering the season, the quality and variety were excellent. Carrots and Parsnips were outstanding, but collections were not quite up to the usual standard. The most successful exhibitor was Mr. A. W. Cutting. Other prizes were won by Messrs. W. Boehm, Gore Bros., S. Grivell, G. Elborough, H. L. Sprigg, Day Bros., and Cobbledick Bros.

Fruit entries were reduced by the season, but the display was an excellent one considering the weather. Plums, Peaches and Watermelons were outstanding with the Apples good. Mr. H. L. Sprigg was easily the most successful exhibitor, and other prizes were won by Messrs. W. H. Johnson, F. N. Thomas, W. Boehm, M. Daly, S. Grivell and Gore Bros.

Flower numbers were not equal to last year, but the display was an attractive one and reflected credit on the exhibitors. Gladioli, asters, zinnias and dahlias were prominent. Prizes were won by E.Holliday, Gore Bros., R. Hockam, Rev. E. Pederick, Day Bros., W. Rehn, S. Grivell, Miss R. Nicol, E. S. Willsmore, H. E. Schultz, Mae Hockam, Mrs. A. Dyer, Cobbledick Bros., Mrs. G. Stephenson, Mrs. J. Grigg and Mrs. H. M. Cornish.—("Advertiser.")

EXHIBITS OF HIGH QUALITY, DESPITE HEAT.

Annual Show at Paradise.

Fruit, vegetable and flower exhibits in the 18th annual show of the Torrens Valley Agricultural and Horticultural Society at Paradise, on February 11, gave convincing evidence of the effective way in which gardeners have combated the prolonged heatwaves. In most instances the standard of the entries was remarkably high.

In opening the show, the Premier (Mr. Playford) congratulated the society on its efforts and progress.

The Chairman of the Campbelltown District Council (Mr. A. C. Amos), asked the Premier to open the new hall and grandstand, which had replaced the buildings destroyed by fire last year.

The President of the Society (Dr. R. N. Reilly) occupied the chair at the official luncheon, which was attended by members of Parliament municipalists and other visitors.

Mr. Abbott, M.P., proposed "The Society."

Peaches Praised.

"No doubt it has been the ambition of all of you to dine in Paradise," remarked Mr. O. Esselbach in proposing "The Visitors." "Well, to-day is the day," he added amid laughter.

"The finest show of Peaches I have ever seen," was the comment of Mr. V. Newman, who judged the fruit exhibits. The Pears and Apples were also excellent, and, although the Plums were weak, the competition lacked nothing in quality.

Principal prize winners in the fruit section were Mr. A. J. Hann, who entered the best collection of cases, Hann Bros. (best collection of fruit), W. Rehn, A. Rehn, Emery Bros., K. Church, and M. J. Daly.

Although the entries in the vegetable classes were naturally smaller as a result of the unfavorable weather, the standard was well up to that of previous years, said Mr. H. C. Austin, the vegetable judge.

Mr. A. W. Cutting, with 17 first awards, including the best collection, was the outstanding competitor in the vegetable classes, while Mr. C. Pierson scored with 11 firsts.

Mr. N. Wicks, who judged the district exhibit, said that the quality of goods was excellent, and the wide range denoted great possibility along developmental lines.—("News.")

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Heat Wave Reduced Export Crop.

The monthly meeting of the Executive of the South Australian Fruit Marketing Association was held at Adelaide on February 17.

There were present: Messrs. J. B. Randell (Chairman), R. O. Knappstein, M. G. Basey, R. G. Hannaford, A. O. Petersen, P. R. B. Searcy, A. R. Willsmore, C. A. Stewien, S. M. James, H. M. Charlick, J. H. Dunning, H. C. Austin, W. F. E. Smith, and the Secretary.

Apologies: Hon. T. Playford, Messrs. H. N. Wicks, R. A. Cramond, and C. L. Winser.

Eastern Trade: Mr. J. H. Dunning was elected to the State Advisory Committee on Eastern Trade in place of the late H. J. Bishop.

Letters were received from the Australian Apple and Pear Council re trade with Port Said, Denmark, France, and re optional bills of lading.

Crop Prospects.

The President stated that in view of the second disastrous heat wave just experienced, members were very concerned as to whether the space that had been applied for could be filled. It was decided to hold a meeting of shippers on February 21.

The Secretary was instructed to advise the Overseas Shipping Representatives' Association, what was being done, and to ask if a reduction in space were found necessary whether shipowners would prefer a percentage reduction on each boat or the total elimination of certain vessels.

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THE CITRUS INDUSTRY

Interstate Citrus Conference

THE Annual Conference of Victorian and Interstate Citrus Growers was held at Melbourne on February 8, 1939. Captain D. Halhed, Mildura, presided.

The list of delegates (V.C.C.A.), board members, officials and visitors attending the conference was as follows:—

District Representatives: Messrs. H. Wormwell, Mildura; J. A. Rickard, Merbein; R. Hollins, Red Cliffs; R. P. Evans, Coomealla; D. J. Walters, Murrabit; R. J. Watson, Perricoota; P. Cobbett, Bamawm; L. Cox, Wangaratta; J. Cotton, Cobram; P. Rossiter, Ngawe; S. P. Taylor, Curlwaa; N. W. Fairless, Shepparton.

Visitors: Messrs. C. E. McNally, Red Cliffs; D. Gordon, Mildura; R. E. Boardman (Apple and Pear Council); E. W. Walker, Lake Kangaroo; A. W. Purnell, Lake Kangaroo, J. A. Parkes and M. Langdon, Renmark.

Directors and Officials: Captain D B. Halhed (Chairman), R. J. Watson, P. Cobbett, A. E. Cameron, S. P. Taylor, P. Rossiter, and the General Manager, Mr. A. W. Schwennesen, and the Market Manager, Mr. G. E. K-Kerr.

The chairman spoke favorably of the publicity campaign and stated that although the coming crop was lighter than that of last year it was necessary to continue the campaign.

Mr. P. Corbett, Bamawn, advocated the inclusion of Lemons in the propaganda.

Melbourne Markets.

The Market Manager, Mr. Kerr, gave an interesting review of the citrus season in Melbourne from the period April to December, 1938. (See separate report.)

The publicity report was received with appreciation. (Details on another page.)

Grapefruit.

The chairman referred to the importation of Palestine Grapefruit. Personally he did not object to importations during the Summer months when locally grown Grapefruit was not available. Some of the imported Grapefruit, however, was affected with Red Scale, and this had been permitted to go into consumption, after fumigation. He deemed it advisable for Grapefruit to be available all the year round so that people would not switch from this fruit to something else. He recommended sending a letter to the Palestine authorities pointing out defects in their shipments in order that such could be remedied. Several delegates disagreed with this viewpoint. Some doubted the efficacy of the fumigation, particularly as the Palestine Grapefruit was wrapped. Further, they thought that the experiments should be conducted into the matter of cultivation and cool storage to keep Australian Grapefruit on this market all the year.

Soil Erosion.

Mr. H. Hanslow, of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission said that ruthless clearing of timber and indiscriminate burning-off were causing such a serious situation in Victoria that immediate action was needed to remove very grave fears for the future. The only remedy was to form a special body to zone "erosion hazard areas" and supervise burning-off, clearing of hillsides, ploughing, over-stocking, and other action which contributed to the danger.

The Soil Conservation Act passed in New South Wales should be copied by Victoria, Mr. Hanslow said. No settler or group of people had the right to burn off or clear land without proper control.

Weirs were becoming silted at an alarming rate, and it was the duty of the gresent generation to adopt a permanent policy of water conservation. Sand drifts in the Mallee and Wimmera were bad enough to warrant the expenditure of £60,000 a year by the Commission, but much more serious was the loss of fertile soil.

On the motion of Messrs. Cameron and Rickard, a vote of thanks was conveyed to Mr. Hanslow, and a resolution was adopted as follows:—

"That this Conference of citrus growers being users of irrigation water supplied from streams and storages under the control of the Victorian State Rivers and Water Supply Commission urges the Government to take the necessary steps to check further erosion and so prevent the siltation of the water storages and further that the control of the catchment areas of the various storages be placed in the hands of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, or that a separate body be constituted with full legislative authority and ample funds to do whatever is necessary to arrest the further development of erosion and siltation."

Over-riding Brands.

Mr. A. E. Cameron, Mildura, moved—

"That the Conference approves the proposal that groups of districts producing Oranges of similar quality should market them under one brand for each group, and that State boundaries need not be considered in relation to grouping, similarity of quality to be the deciding factor."

Mr. Taylor seconded.

There was a full discussion in which various objections were brought forward by delegates and answered by members of the Executive. It was finally decided to meet again within six months to consider all details.

Sale of Oranges in New Zealand.

Mr. Schwennesen reported 41,878 cases of Oranges had been sent by the V.C.C.A. to N.Z. between June 1 and December 14, 1938, to the value of £27,553. The shipments consisted of 14,197 Navels and 27,681 Valencias.

Fumigating Oranges.

The total exports of Oranges from Australia in export cases to N.Z. from June 1 to December 31, 1938, were 280,637, as compared with 269,811 in 1937, and 152,941 in 1936.

Generally speaking, V.C.C.A. shipments to N.Z. were very satisfactory.

Maturity Standards.

At the instance of Mr. Walters there was a discussion on the marketing of green Oranges, and it was decided that the Department of Agriculture be asked to review the result of the operation of the existing maturity standard with a view to ascertaining if the public had been adequately protected.

Irrigation Studies.

Mr. Walters expressed the need for the appointment of a Departmental scientist to study the effect of irrigation water on the soil as distinct from the tree.

Appreciation was expressed for the work of the C.S.I.R. and the State Department of Agriculture.

The conference then closed.

MOTTLE LEAF OF CITRUS.

Value of Zinc Sprays.

Experiments carried out in South Australia under the direction of Mr. A. G. Strickland (Chief Horticultural Instructor) some time ago, were successful in proving that the application of zinc sprays to mottle-leaf affected citrus trees led to a marked improvement in tree health and the disappearance of mottle-leaf symptoms. It is suggested that whatever other adverse factors may be associated with the mottle-leaf condition (nematode infestation, soil salinity, lack of humus, etc.) these are only indirectly contributory and not the main cause, which can now be definitely assigned to zinc deficiency.

The treatment which has proved successful is to spray at any time of the year, though preferably not near harvest time, with a mixture of 3 lb. zinc oxide per 100 galls. water with a spreader, 3 galls. per 100 galls. of lime casein or skim milk.

N.S.W. CITRUS EXPORT.

Embargo Abolition League Formed.

At a recent meeting of citrus growers held at Gosford (N.S.W.), an Embargo Abolition League of Australia was formed.

Mr. R. B. Walker, M.L.A., informed the meeting that the Prime Minister of New Zealand (Mr. Savage) had stated if Australia would show the slightest willingness to discuss the embargo on N.Z. Potatoes, the Dominion's restriction on N.S.W. fruit would be lifted. (This was later confirmed in a press statement by Mr. Savage.)

Letters were read from the Committee of Direction (Qld.), Sir Frederick Stewart and Mr. Lawson, M.P., supporting the move.

Growers instructed the Committee to take such action as was considered necessary, as it was deemed unreasonble that consumers in Sydney should be paying 4d. a lb. for Potatoes while the N.Z. public was clamoring for Oranges and paying 4d. each.

The Housewives' Association and the National Council of Women had promised their support, but without the assistance of the metropolitan Federal Parliamentary representatives, the growers could get nothing done.

It was decided that the executive of women's organisations in Sydney be approached with a view to arranging a conference with the League in order that a united deputation could wait on Mr. Lyons.

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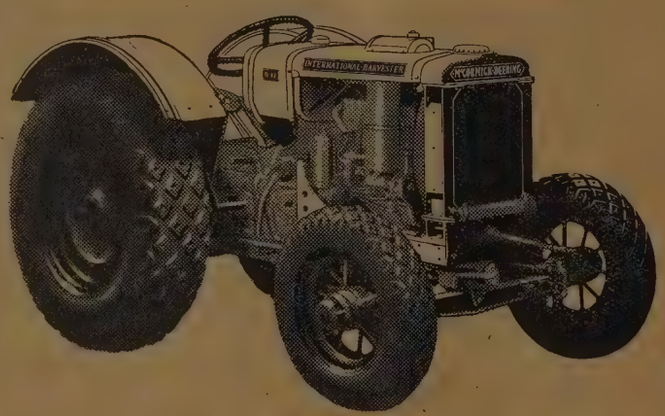

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Citrus Fruits in Melbourne

(Interesting Report by Mr. G. Kitchin Kerr, Market Manager, V.C.C.A.)

RECORD QUANTITY HANDLED.

AT THE RECENT annual meeting of the Victorian Central Citrus Association, the report of the Market Manager, Mr. G. Kitchin Kerr, was received with interest and appreciation. The following is a summary:—

Record Market Arrivals.

For the nine months ended December 31, 1938, the Melbourne market received a record quantity of citrus fruit, 845,000 bushels of all varieties compared with the previous highest, 836,000 in 1931. The proportionate increase in net market arrivals was due to the smaller quantity of Oranges, Lemons and Sevilles taken by the factories this season. The opening of the N.Z. market to the Victorian and M.I.A. areas meant that the quantity exported from these districts would displace a similar quantity of S.A. fruit which would have to come to Melbourne.

Net Market Arrivals.

The net market arrivals, after deducting factory supplies, direct deliveries, interstate shipments, and export from the gross arrivals by rail, boat and transport, compared with previous seasons as follows:—

Net Wholesale Market—Nine Months to December 31 (Bushels).

State.	1938.	1937.	1936.	1933.	1931.
Victoria and Border	526,000	510,000	469,000	514,000	525,500
South Australia	223,000	175,000	115,000	150,000	226,500
N.S.W. and Queensland	96,000	73,000	142,000	79,000	84,200
Total Bushels	845,000	758,000	726,000	743,000	836,200
Association total	480,700	400,500	348,700	408,600	401,100
Association%	56.8	52	48	55	48

Prices.

With the exception of Navel Oranges, prices for the different varieties, calculated on returns to association growers show an advance on last year. So far as Navels are concerned, the difference of 1d. a case does not reflect the true position as the calculation for 1938 is based on a bigger proportion of early district fruit than was represented in the 1937 figure, and on that basis would be 3d. to 4d. lower. The following are the average prices per case, calculated on the basis of the association agents returns:—

Victorian Border Average Prices, Nine Months Ended December 31, 1938.

	% of 1938 total.	1938.	1937.	1936.	1935.
Navels	55.0	6/11	7/–	7/0.4	7/0.7
Mandarins	4.0	7/9	7/9.7	7/4.6	6/4
Lemons	5.0	6/9.6	6/4.8	6/8.8	7/0.6
Grapefruit	8.5	8/3.4	7/4.8	7/9.8	7/6.2
Commons	4.5	6/5.1	5/10	6/1.9	6/2.5
Valencias	23.0	9/4.7	8/7.7	9/0.6	9/2.4

Publicity Stimulates Sales.

The Association's publicity had the effect of clearing a bigger volume of Oranges in mid-season, but the active demand was chiefly for the cheaper grades and large sizes.

Valencias.

The Valencia season opened earlier owing to the shorter Navel selling period, and for the two months November-December, prices generally were higher than last season. Although there were periods of comparative light supply, there was no undue interruption of consignments, as was the case last season, and prices were more stable on that account. There was some over-supply of very small Valencias early in December, but steps were taken in time to restrict the picking of small sizes. Whereas at December 31, 1937, there was a record carry-over of Valencias, this year a much bigger quantity of Valencias had been marketed and prices were firming for the moderate consignments that were arriving.

Grapefruit.

The quantity of Grapefruit marketed in Melbourne continues to show an increase. This year the increase was nearly 20 per cent., but average prices over the period were substantially higher, despite the slow sales of the lower grades in mid-season. The limited quantities of Palestine Grapefruit imported during the period had no effect on sales, as the quantity was too small and the quality, owing to comparative immaturity, below that of the good Murray River fruit.

Lemons.

Country Lemons were in shorter supply, despite the bigger quantities available for the case market owing to smaller factory orders. Good standard grade Lemons of good size sold steadily throughout the year, but there were periods when the bulk of supplies were below average standard grade and of uncommercial size.

Other Varieties.

Prices for common Oranges followed the same trend as Navels, and those that were marketed from September onwards obtained the benefit of the rising market. Blood Oranges are becoming more difficult to sell at novelty values. Sevilles and Poormans were in poorer demand throughout the season.

Marketing Arrangements.

During the season additional appointments to the wholesale selling panel were made in accordance with the association's policy of increasing the number of wholesalers as warranted by altered conditions. These appointments have had the effect of strengthening the Association position in some districts and of providing a wider outlet for Association members' fruit.

Without the full measure of co-operation on the part of the present members of the wholesale selling team, conditions on the market would become chaotic, and prices, low as they may be at times, would easily be 6d. to 1/- a case less. At present the Association's selling system, imperfect as it may be, is the envy of other Associations.

Association Status.

The statistical position of the Association on the market has improved during the season, and the position could be shown to be stronger if allowance were made for districts,

Citrus Fruits in Melbourne
(Continued)

which for a variety of reasons are not susceptible to any form of organisation, voluntary or otherwise.

It is a significant fact that in the areas where there is a big volume of uniformly graded fruit of reasonably good quality, the percentage of effective Association control is upwards of 75 per cent. Human nature being what it is, it is unlikely that any voluntary organisation, in similar circumstances, could retain the support of more than 85 per cent. of the producers in any given locality, no matter what form its marketing organisation was to take.

Publicity.

The efforts to induce an increased consumption of Oranges during the season were successful in so far as a bigger quantity of fruit was sold, and more money was paid by the public for it, during the main selling period. Despite handicaps, the retailers paid £4,500 more for Navel Oranges than in 1937—£167,000 compared with £162,500. The total quantity of Navels sold in 1938 was 488,000 cases, compared with 458,000 in 1937, the respective averages per case being 6/10 and 7/1.

It is reasonable to assume that had no special publicity effort been made a smaller volume of Navels would have passed into consumption, and a much smaller sum of money paid by the trade. In these days, with the markets heavily supplied with fruit and other food commodities all seeking a share of the public's expenditure, industries such as the citrus industry are obliged to indulge in some publicity to maintain the consumption of their products

Specialised Publicity.

Now that the Association has committed itself to regular publicity expenditure, consideration could be given to the possibility of allocating some money for specialised publicity for standardised brands. A survey of the industry suggests that the packing technique has improved to the extent of making the adoption of one or two over-riding standardised brands practicable and of supplementing the general consumption propaganda with an independent advertising plan on their behalf.

Coming Season's Prospects.

There is a lighter crop of Valencias to be marketed for the remainder of the season, and there is a possibility that available quantities may be reduced, owing to the scorching effect of the heatwave in January on the hanging fruit. The heavy importations of Palestine Grapefruit in January are likely to have a depressing effect on market values, particularly as the big number of importers and the mixed sizes of this fruit have already unsettled values. If these importations continue at the January rate they will influence opening prices for new season's Grapefruit.

Preliminary reports indicate that there will be a **lighter Navel crop** in some districts, but if there is a reduction in the crop its effect will not be felt on the market until comparatively late in the season.

The **Lemon crop** is also likely to be lighter, partly as the result of some trees and fruit having been damaged during the recent heatwave.

CITRUS EXPORT TO NEW ZEALAND.

Exports of Oranges in export cases to New Zealand for the period June 1 to December 31, 1938, were as follows:—

New South Wales	140,909
Victoria, including some from Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area	70,542
South Australia	69,186
	280,637

The totals for the two previous years were:—

1936	152,941
1937	269,811

TESTS WITH ROOTSTOCKS IN APPLES.

As views have been expressed at East Malling that Northern Spy is not a satisfactory rootstock under unfavorable conditions, preliminary trials were made with other rootstocks. Some Malling stocks were obtained from Tasmania and have been inarched into limbs of trees in an endeavour to stimulate growth. The results of tests are awaited.

Plans have been made for the extension of the investigations into moisture requirement studies, root stocks, and determinations of the effects of pruning methods on root development.

Teacher: Who knows what races of people have black eyes?

Little Mary: Sheiks and prize fighters, teacher!

Publicity for Orange Juice
Successful Educational Campaign

CONSIDERABLE INTEREST was displayed at the recent Annual Conference of the Victorian Central Citrus Association on the subject of publicity to increase the consumption of Oranges.

The market manager, Mr. G. Kerr presented a detailed and interesting report, describing the educational publicity methods adopted, the main emphasis being on **Orange juice.**

He explained that of the expenditure of £800 incurred in this campaign, £200 had been contributed by the Murray Citrus Growers' Association, £50 each by the Murrabit and Cobram Packing Companies, £40 by the Barham Packing Company, £21 by the Committee of Direction, Queensland, £7 by non-association Mildura growers, £5 by Mr. R. C. Quick, Tocumwal, and £1/1/- by Drake Sons, Kyalite.

The publicity campaign had undoubtedly resulted in an extra quantity of fruit passing into consumption at a time when selling conditions were unfavorable.

In addition, the bulk of the crop had been cleared earlier than usual.

So far as next season's expenditure was concerned, he hoped that Conference would agree to a continuance of this form of service to the growers, despite the reports of a shorter Orange crop. There was still a big field to exploit in the encouragement of Orange juice propaganda, and the additional number of consumers gained with each publicity campaign would stand the industry in good stead in the following years. On the other hand, if publicity were suspended in any one year it would mean that the industry would be leaving the propaganda field to other fruit and commodity marketing organisations, who are now publicity conscious, and who would certainly exploit the position on their own account.

A survey had disclosed unexpected instances of the failure of some refreshment rooms, tuckshops, and non-residential clubs to make any attempt to sell pure Orange juice, the drink trade in these places being confined to bottled cordials. It is obvious, therefore, that there is still a wide field for continued propaganda on behalf of pure Orange juice.

Dealing with the publicity plans for the coming season the chairman (Capt. D. B. Halhed) said that at the board meeting on the previous day the board members were unanimous on the desirability of carrying on the publicity campaign. Although preliminary reports indicated a lighter crop, the need had been recognised for continued publicity. It was decided that if necessary, £500 should be made available out of the reserve.

Mr. P. Cobbett (Bamawm), suggested that Lemons should be included in the publicity.

Citrus Prospects in N.S.W.
Navels Light .·. Valencias Light to Medium

The exceptionally adverse weather conditions of December and early January appear to have played havoc throughout the citrus groves of N.S.W., states the Under Secretary for Agric., Mr. G. D. Ross. Extensive shedding is reported, and crop prospects generally show a decline. Bushfires in the Baulkham Hills district were responsible for the destruction of over 7,000 trees.

Throughout **coastal areas** the greater percentage of Navel trees is lightly cropped, although in some groves there are reasonably good settings. On the **Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area** the crop is light to moderate with an occasional heavy one.

While the drop of **Valencias** has been considerable the crop ranges from very light to medium along the coast and moderate to good with some outstanding settings on the M.I.A.

Generally the **Common Orange crop** varies and ranges from very light to good along the coast and medium on the M.I.A. **Sevilles** mostly are light, but in a few instances moderate production is indicated.

The outlook for **Mandarins** in coastal groves is not bright. Some medium crops are to be seen, but for the most part they are light and a report from Baulkham Hills is to the effect that only isolated trees are carrying any fruit. Light to good settings are in sight on the M.I.A.

No particulars are available regarding the **Lemon** main crop at present. Extreme heat was responsible for the loss of considerable quantities of mature fruit.

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DUMP CASES—		
SIDES (Plain or Vented)	17 x 14	500's
	17 x 13	500's
	17 x 8½	1,000's
TOPS AND BOTTOMS	17 x 8	1,000's
CANADIAN CASES—		
SIDES	17 x 10	1,000's
	17 x 10½	1,000's
TOPS AND BOTTOMS	17 x 11	1,000's
PEARS—		
SIDES	13 x 6	1,000's
TOPS AND BOTTOMS	13 x 12	500's

Also Combination Packs of:—

DUMPS	CANADIAN	PEARS
(500 17 x 13)	(500 17 x 10)	(334 13 x 6)
(500 17 x 8)	(500 17 x 11)	(334 13 x 12)

Motor Cars, Trucks, Tractors

Power on the Farm

E. G. Dean (Keyneton, S. Aust.).

ASSUMING AN ENGINE is in good order and adjustment, then there are two factors which will decide whether it will go or not. One is the fuel supply and the other is the means employed to explode that fuel in the combustion chamber, namely, the ignition.

Generally speaking (writes Mr. E. G. Dean, Keyneton, S.A., in S. Aust. Jour. Agric.), little can be said concerning the fuel system other than to recommend cleaning all gauze sieves regularly and emptying glass sediment bowls below vacuum tanks and alongside fuel pumps, when it is obvious that dirt is collecting therein. It is also a good plan to drain and flush out the carburettor periodically. It is better to spend a little time in the garage than waste perhaps hours on the road.

During the Winter it is advisable to keep the fuel tank as full as is conveniently possible rather than to always have it partly or nearly empty. This will greatly decrease the amount of water which can collect in a tank through condensation, especially on cold frosty nights.

Ignition.

Here, again, periodical inspection and adjustment can save a deal of trouble. Plugs should be removed, thoroughly cleaned in petrol, and the gaps adjusted to the maker's recommendation. When making the adjustment always use a gap gauge as this distance cannot be guessed. Few people realise that it is quite possible to break a crankshaft through allowing the plug gap to become excessively wide, as the spark rather than bridge an enormous space at the plug may crossfire in the distributor and fire the wrong cylinder.

A driver complained recently that his car was hard to start and had an irregular "miss" at cruising speeds. The instruction book gave the spark plug gap as .023in., but the nearest I could find to this in 6 plugs was .042in., and when the gap was reduced one would not have known that engine. Any plug which has a crack in the porcelain or very badly burnt parts should be replaced. A plug may show a spark if removed and placed on the cylinder head, but may fail utterly under compression.

Keep the outside of plugs free from oil and grease, as these in sufficient quantities can form a very effective short. The distributor should be wiped clean of all oil, moisture, and dust, and the contact breaker points properly adjusted (.018in. to .020in. would be effective in most cases). The generator or magneto should not be forgotten, although they require very little attention other than to keep them clean and properly lubricated. The commutator and brushes of the generator and starting motor should be cleaned occasionally with a cloth soaked in petrol.

The Storage Battery.

The most common abuse this gets is the failure to top up the acid when it falls below the level of the plates. Use only pure distilled water for this purpose, but do not overfill (¼in. above plates is sufficient). Regularly remove and clean the battery terminals and when replacing smear with vaseline to prevent corrosion. Wipe the top of the battery clean, and finally see that it is firm in its cradle and cannot jump about. On no account run the engine with the battery removed or disconnected. All the electric wiring should, as far as possible, be kept away from hot spots, and should not be allowed to work loose and chafe, especially on metal parts. If a fuse burns out there is a definite reason for it; trace the cause before replacing the fuse.

Lubrication

is a most important factor in the successful and economical operation of any engine. Take an average 6-cylinder car travelling at, say, 50 m.p.h. The engine would be turning over at about 2,500 revolutions per minute. Each piston would stop and start 5,000 times each minute, and in that same minute each piston travels about 2,000ft., moving up and down in a metal cylinder with very little clearance. This may well make us wonder how an engine lasts as it does, and serves to illustrate the importance of proper lubrication.

The best oil is the cheapest in the long run, as it will still stand up to the job at all speeds and loads. It is essential to use the correct grade for the particular engine; no one grade of oil can successfully lubricate all types of engines. Drain the sump regularly, at a speedometer reading of so many miles, not just when you think it might be a good plan to change the oil. I would recommend between 1,000 and 1,400 miles, according to the type of work which the engine is doing. The oil would no doubt be quite good for several more miles, but it is the minute particles of dirt and metal circulating with it plus the dilution caused by unburnt fuel and moisture passing the pistons that do the damage. Always drain with a hot engine immediately after a fair run, as all the impurities will then be suspended in the oil and will be carried out with it. When filling in oil see that all utensils are spotlessly clean; because oil is naturally a messy liquid it does not follow that any old thing will do. Do not overlook such important units as the gear box and differential. These, too, require regular draining and also regular replenishment if necessary. Other important points which must have proper lubrication besides shackles, steering knuckles, etc., are those subjected to heavy loads and higher speeds, such as the king-pins, universal joints, rear and front wheel bearings, clutch release bearing, distributor drive shaft bearing, and fan bearing.

(To be continued)

WHAT A GREAT RANGE of Utilities Chevrolet has produced! There are three distinctly different chassis—12, 15 and 20 cwt. There are 29 models to choose from. Every desirable body-style is available. And these Chevrolet Utilities are engineered to save you money in five ways.

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IF you need a unit for fast, light delivering, then you should take a good look at the Chevrolet range. You'll like them, not only on the way they perform, but for the good looking style of them, the prestige they add to your business. Let's give you a demonstration.

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The extent to which visibility from the seat of a motor car or truck can be improved by raising the eye-level a few inches, per medium of elevating the driving seat, is not appreciated by all motorists. The need of having to straighten up with the object of improving visibility can be obviated by using a small loose car cushion.

It will be found that by raising the eye-level by this means, the blind area in front of the car is reduced materially, thereby tending to safer driving.

Tests have shown that the blind area in front of a car can, in many instances, be reduced by as much as 30 ft. by the simple expedient of raising the driving seat a matter of 2½ inches.

The best plan to prevent engine belts slipping is to get some solid belt dressing, which prevents belts from slipping, and try it before putting on a "jockey" pulley.

AMBER COLORED LAMPS.

Needed During Foggy Weather.

Action has been taken by the N.R.M.A. in strong opposition to the N.S.W. police ban on the use of amber-colored fog lamps on motor vehicles. The Association is approaching the authorities with a request that the regulations be amended to permit the use of these lamps.

It is rather strange that earlier in the year yellow headlamp glasses or bulbs were made compulsory in France, less dazzle and better fog vision being the advantages claimed.

It is hoped that perhaps the Police Traffic Office will allow the use of yellow paper discs similar to those used by the Royal Automobile Club in Britain. These discs would only cost a trifling amount each and could be removed from the front of the front lamps in a second or so, when a fog area had been passed.

NEW PONTIACS.

Silver Arrow and Chieftain Pontiac cars for 1939 are now offered. Many new and pleasing features are introduced. There is also increased visibility for driver and passengers. An adjustment has been added which permits setting the shift lever to suit the reach of the driver. The new clutch and transmission are valued improvements.

Dried Fruits News

River Murray Notes

SPECIAL IRRIGATIONS — CURRANT PACK MAY BE HEAVIER THAN LAST YEAR — HEAT AFFECTS SULTANAS — IMPROVED DRAINAGE SYSTEMS NEEDED — VALUABLE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE COLD DIP PROCESS — INTERESTING SPEECHES AT COMBINED SOCIAL AT RENMARK — WARM TRIBUTES OF APPRECIATION OF THE LATE CHAS. HAWKER, M.H.R. — SUCCESS OF CO-OPERATIVE EFFORTS.

(By Our Correspondent.)

Renmark, S. Aust., Feb. 20, 1939.

This has been an abnormal season so far as prolonged heat is concerned. For about two months we have had an unabated succession of daily temperatures rarely falling below 100 degrees, while for twelve (12) days in mid-February, the daily temperature did not go below an average of 105 degrees, and for many days of this it went from 110 to 118 degrees. Naturally, the effect on vines and trees was severe, and hardly a block can be seen without yellowed and scorched leaves, a condition which cannot be seen without leaving its effect on the fruit.

Owing to the rapid rise in Baumè, the fruit has reached maturity very quickly and will quickly deteriorate. It is now a race to get the fruit picked before undue wilting occurs.

Currants in many cases have already reached that stage when wilting and dropping have occurred.

In the event of harvesting operations being hurried up, no serious loss of Currants will take place, but where rack space is limited, a certain amount of loss is inevitable.

Sultanas, on present appearances, will suffer in quality, as a good deal of fruit has been materially affected by the severe heat.

Whenever we get a prolonged spell of heat somewhere about the early weeks of January, which causes a drying out of the soil, the bottom portion of Sultana bunches do not develop, but remain watery and lack sugar. It does not matter how much water they get after that period, if a definite check in maturity takes place this portion of the bunch will never develop, in consequence the sample will be affected.

To cope with
the water requirements
of the Settlement, the irrigation pumps have been kept going without a break since November. As soon as a general irrigation has been completed, a call for special irrigations has been so insistent that, in spite of having to pay extra for this water, it has been taken freely.

Where the special irrigations have not been taken, vines have suffered pretty severely. It is always a gamble whether to take a special irrigation close up to picking time, as on many occasions growers who have taken it have been "caught" by a monsoonal rain, with disastrous results. It is difficult to estimate the
crop of Currants
at the present moment because, on a basis of the number of picking tins of fruit per acre the present showing will be be well below the normal estimate. There is a factor, however, which must be considered, and that is the flabby, "wilty" state of the fruit when picked, will considerably reduce the drying ratio, and having this in mind I think the dried pack of Currants will be more than last year.

There is no doubt that the quality will be a considerable improvement on last year's pack, but the **Sultanas**, taking them as a whole, will not come up to last year's quality. A good deal of sun scorch has taken place, with the Gordos, but there is evidence to indicate that the Baumè of all distillery fruit should be higher than for many years past.

Early in February, Mr. A. V. Lyon, M.Ag.Sc. (officer in charge of the Merbein Research Station), gave an address to the Barmera branch of the Agricultural Bureau. Mr. Eric Sims occupied the chair. Mr. Lyon said that while making a tour of the Settlement he noted severe cases of **scorching of the bark of Sultana** canes, which occurred during the early stages of sugaring of the fruit, and he doubted whether the bunches on these canes would develop normally. The heat had been so severe that it cracked and lifted the outer bark. Mr. Lyon covered the range of **irrigation experiments** carried out on the blocks of Messrs. C. Till (Barmera), Jury (Monash), and Dunstan (Chaffey), and pointed out that in spite of using less water on these plots than is normally used in the Settlement, they were all looking remarkably well, in fact were an improvement on the majority of blocks in that locality. **Nitrogen experiments** were in their second year, and would be carried on until something definite could be said about them.

The speaker gave an outline of the **drainage work** being investigated by his staff in the district. Yet there seemed to be a feeling in the meeting that the services of the C.S. and I.R. were not being fully made use of by the S. Aust. Government, and at the conclusion of the meeting, the following resolution was carried:

"That this meeting of Barmera growers again urges the Public Works Standing Committee to seek the co-operation of the C.S. and I.R. in conjunction with the State officers relative to the drainage position in the Upper Murray Areas."

Mr. Lyon detailed at length the work carried out at the Research Station on improvements in the **cold dipping** process for Sultanas. This work has been in progress for the past three seasons, and Mr. Orton, the officer in charge of the experiments, has incorporated a wetting agent in the form of potassium linoleate, which reduces the time of immersion very considerably.

The normal period of immersion, before the **incorporation of the wetting agent**, was in the region of three minutes, but by employing potassium (or ammonium) linoleate, the time has been reduced to five to ten seconds, but to be on the safe side the recommendation has been an immersion of about 30 seconds. This has been a great innovation to those employing the cold potash dip, and will considerably hasten the work of processing.

A further advantage to be gained by employing a wetting agent lies in the fact that the dipping solution drains off the fruit very much quicker and naturally effects a big saving in the quantity of solution used in a day's dipping.

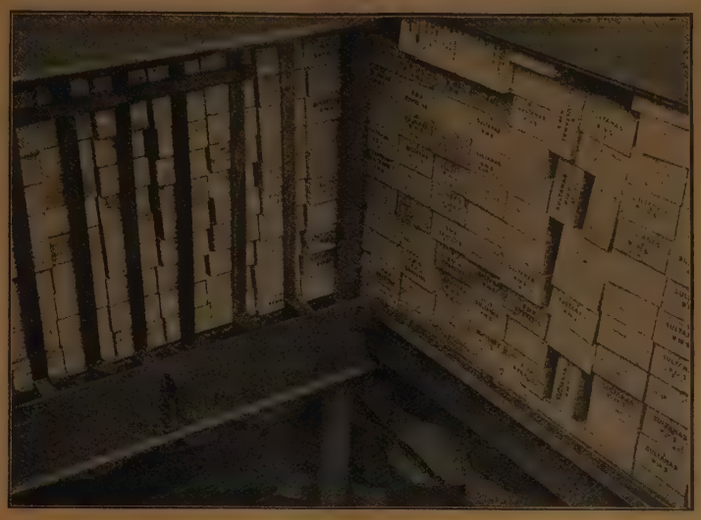
The normal cold dip
has usually a Baumè density of about four degrees, but in his experiments, Mr. Orton has discovered that a strength of 2½ Baumé does not effect the drying time nor does it reduce the quality of the finished article. By reducing the strength of the dip from 4 to 2½ degrees will effect a material saving in the quantity of potash used. So once again science comes to the aid of the primary producer.

One of the events of the year which is eagerly looked forward to by Renmark members of the Dried Fruits and Distillery Co-operative bodies is the **combined social** of the Renmark Fruit Growers' Co-op. and the Renmark Growers' Co-op. Distillery, which took place early in February. Mr. H. D. Howie (chairman of the Renmark Fruit Growers' Co-op., occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. D. T. Durieu (Chairman of the Renmark Growers' Co-op. Distillery). There were also present the new Federal member for the district, Mr. S. McHugh, M.H.R., and Mr. W. McGillivray (State member for the district), besides a full representative of co-operative bodies from all along the river.

Mr. McHugh expressed his appreciation of having received an invitation to attend this social. It was his desire to learn all he could about these **co-operative bodies**, which were doing such yeoman service for an industry which was highly organised, more highly organised than any other primary industry. The speaker looked upon the River Murray Irrigation Settlement as the home of co-operation, which was embodied, among other achievements in the Community Hotel, which was an object lesson to the rest of Australia. Mr. McHugh looked forward to the time when the wheat, dairying, poultry industries would enjoy the same degree of organisation as that of the two industries represented here to-night.

The speaker paid a fine tribute to the late Mr. Charles Hawker, M.H.R., and said that he felt a big responsibility in taking his place.

Mr. H. D. Howie gave a brief outline of the prospects for the coming harvest, and assured members that it was only by sticking fast to the **principles of co-operation** that the full benefits for members could be expected. People seem to think, said Mr. Howie, that the waters of the River Murray were inexhaustible, and we hear of schemes contemplated to divert water to Whyalla, and that other irrigation schemes had been proposed. **We must first be assured that the present irrigation settlements would always have enough water before more diversion takes place.**



Reciprocal trade with Canada. Australian dried fruits & Canadian newsprint

Mr. Durieu, in the course of his response to a toast, said that if Mr. McHugh was a personal friend of the late Charlie Hawker, he would be among friends on the River, and sincerely hoped that the present member of the Federal House would be of assistance to the wine industry. Mr. Durieu looked upon **the articles of the Australian Dried Fruits Association as a basis of full co-operation in any primary industry.**

In the **wine** industry it was not so much a matter of over-production which was affecting the industry, as under consumption. Facilities were not available at the present time for the public to enjoy the wines of the country as they should be, that is to be taken with meals in public places. In the past nine years some 10,000 acres of wine variety vines have been planted, and there was a grave fear that a calamity may occur unless some stabilised scheme of control of planting of vines was put into operation. We hope to get a full measure of assistance for the co-operative movement from State and Federal members.

Mr. Ruston (chairman of the local branch of the A.D.F.A.) regretted the great loss sustained as a friend of the late Mr. Charles Hawker, whose loss was a national one. He also spoke feelingly of the loss of Mr. Arthur Johnson, of Mildura, whose unfortunate end was such a loss to the industry. It was largely due to the efforts of Mr. Johnson that the old prejudice between the rival interests of Victoria and South Australia had been broken down.

Mr. McGillivray, in moving a toast said that if the same spirit of co-operation existed between political bodies as existed between growers of dried fruits, it would be a fine thing for the country. The speaker accepted eagerly the hand of friendship offered by Mr. McHugh, and hoped that their co-operation would bring about some benefits to the district.

Mr. Winterbottom, of Mildura, in responding to "The Visitors," was proud of being in an industry which supported from 40 to 50 thousand people, which, previous to the commencement of the irrigation settlement, only supported from 40 to 50 thousand sheep. He said that when Mr. McHugh had learned all the problems of the moment he would find that they had developed fresh ones overnight, but as fresh problems arise they would be faced and fought with the same spirit which had characterised their efforts of the past.—"Nemo."

DRIED FRUITS NEWS—(*Continued*).

DRYING SULTANAS.

THERE ARE TWO METHODS of drying Sultanas — the cold dip and the mixed dip. In later years, however, the cold dip is receiving greater recognition, and by far the larger part of the Sultana crop of the Murray River Settlement is now processed by the cold dip.

The relative merits of the two dips (writes a N.S.W. Departmental Fruit Instructor) may be tabulated as follows:—

1. Cold dip gives better grades than mixed dip with most types of fruit.

2. Sultanas produced by the cold dip usually retain their color a little better than similar fruit produced by the mixed dip.

3. Now that ready prepared, stable oil emulsions are procurable, the cold dip is practically fool-proof, and with the aid of multi-dips, large tonnages of fruit can be handled rapidly.

4. Cold dip is the safest dip to use under adverse weather conditions. No other dip should be used with rain damaged Sultanas.

5. In good hot weather, cold dip fruit is usually two or three days slower drying than mixed dip. When there is a break in the weather, with some rain during the drying period, there is often little difference between the drying rates, while under very adverse weather conditions the cold dip may at times be faster drying than the mixed dip.

6. The cold dip materials are more costly than those for mixed dip, but the labor costs of dipping are less and the expense of heating the dip is dispensed with.

7. Cold dip fruit requires more handling than mixed dip after removal from the rack. For the best results it should be washed and bleached.

8. The removal of green tinge from certain types of cold dipped fruit is somewhat difficult.

9. The mixed dip is not fool-proof and is less suitable for the rapid handling of large crops. It does, however, give good results in the hands of an expert dip man.

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Dried Fruits Board (S.A.)

THE S.A. Board held its first meeting for the year in January, 1939.

Final reports on the special investigation in conjunction with the Department of Lands were submitted and noted, and further applications for renewals of dealers and packing house registrations were dealt with.

The Coonawarra position was considered at length, and it was agreed to call a meeting of Coonawarra growers on February 9, 1939, at Coonawarra, when representatives of the Board would discuss with the growers arrangements for the marketing of their 1939 season's fruit.

Three registrations of premises for Prune processing were approved, and the Prune position was further investigated. It was resolved that following a conference of Prune interests held a few days previously, to circularise forthwith all Prune growers throughout the State, intimating that the Board had agreed to suspend for the year 1939 the prohibition on the marketing of Prunes of a count of over 120 to the lb.

Reports of Investigation Officers on retailing of low-grade fruit were considered, and it was agreed to **recommend the Consultative Committee to consider the matter of recommending an appropriation to conduct an advertising campaign designed to stimulate the demand for only high-grade dried fruit.**

The Board's budgetary statement for year 1939/40, was submitted, together with recommendation for growers' contribution for 1939, and referred to the Consultative Committee in terms of the arrangements.

The requisite determination was made increasing the home consumption quota for Peaches from 55 per cent. to 57½ per cent.

The remainder of the session was devoted to the consideration of the reports, financial and routine business.

EVASION OF DRIED FRUITS ACT.

Prosecution at Carrathool, N.S.W.

At the Carrathool Court of Petty Sessions, before Mr. T. A. Doolan, P.M., on Tuesday, 7th instant, A. Hiscocks, grocer, of Carrathool, was proceeded against by the N.S.W. Dried Fruits Board for purchase of approximately 25 lbs. of dried Apricots not packed and graded in accordance with the regulations under the Dried Fruit Act, 1933.

Defendant pleaded guilty. Inspector Hall, of the Board, stated that on September 23, 1938, he found approximately 13 lbs. of dried Apricots in a jute sugar bag on defendant's premises. In his opinion the Apricots had not been packed and graded in accordance with the regulations. Defendant had informed him that the Apricots were the balance of approximately 25 lbs. purchased from a hawker some weeks previous to the inspector's visit. The defendant's premises had been visited late in 1937 and dried fruits stocks found in order.

In answer to the Magistrate, the inspector stated that the prosecution was the first undertaken by the Board in the Carrathool and Hay districts.

A fine of £3 with 8/- costs was imposed.

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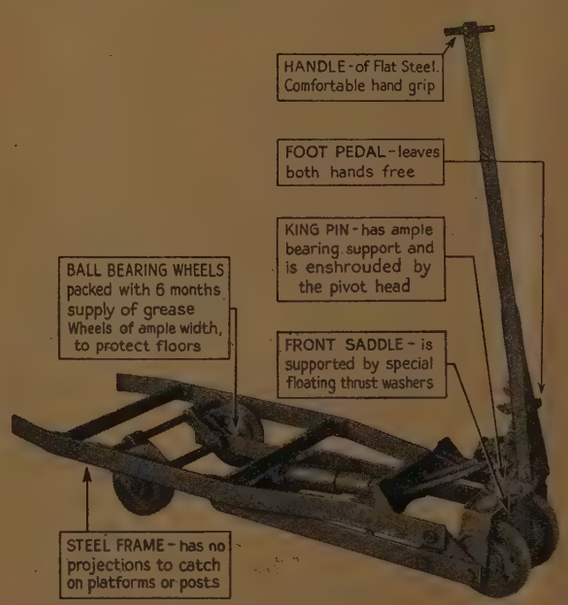
HANDLE-of Flat Steel. Comfortable hand grip
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KING PIN-has ample bearing support and is enshrouded by the pivot head
BALL BEARING WHEELS packed with 6 months supply of grease Wheels of ample width, to protect floors
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DRIED FRUITS (Continued).

RED CLIFFS CO-OPERATIVE.

Record Dried Fruit Tonnage.

Increased Activity With Citrus.

AT the recent annual meeting of the Red Cliffs (Victoria) Co-operative Sheds, the chairman of directors (Mr. F. W. P. Hammet) presided. Directors C. M. Mackie, W. Cavendish, H. Youngs, A. McKinnon and A. Poppleton; Mr. H. R. Sloan (manager), Mr. F. Weatherburn (secretary), and approximately 60 shareholders attended. The annual report revealed that the tonnage of dried fruit handled by the company in the 1938 season was a record total, and the 7,396 tons of Sultanas packed in the No. 1 Shed was the greatest tonnage to be handled by any individual shed in the industry. The total tonnage handled for the year was 9,320 tons as compared with 6,619 tons for the 1937 season. **There was also a substantial increase in the citrus pack for the season.**

A dividend of 8 per cent. was declared and it was decided that the payment of the rebate of the 1938 season's deliveries of dried fruits be made.

The net profit for the year was £3,550/14/1. The payment of the 8 per cent. dividend will absorb £3,966/9/9.

The packing charges for the 1939 season will be £5 per ton for Currants, Sultanas, Lexias and Walthams. The reduction of 6/6 on last year's price is due to the cheaper price of boxes.

Initial payments on deliveries of fruit to the packing houses this season will be: Currants, £8 per ton; Sultanas, £8 per ton; Lexias and Walthams, £8 per ton; to be followed by supplementary payments at regular intervals.

Directors H. Youngs, A. Poppleton and C. M. Mackie were returned unopposed.

DRIED FRUIT PRICES.

The Australian Dried Fruits Association announced recently that it had fixed the following prices for dried fruits for the current season:—

Nectarines (28 lb. boxes).

	"Fancy," One box,	Per lb.	"Choice," One box,	Per lb.	"Standard," One box,	Per lb.	One box,	Per lb.
5-crown	1/2		1/1		1/–		—	
4-crown	1/1		1/–		11d.		—	
3-crown	1/–		11d.		10d.		—	
2-crown	11d.		10d.		9d.		—	
1-crown	—		8½d.		7d.		—	
Slabs	—		—		—		7d.	
"Plain"	—		—		—		7d.	

Peaches (28 lb. boxes).

4-crown	1/–	11d.	10½d.	—
3-crown	11d.	10½d.	10d.	—
2-crown	10d.	9½d.	9d.	—
1-crown	—	8d.	7½d.	—
Slabs	—	—	—	7½d.
"Plain"	—	—	—	7½d.

Pears (28 lb. boxes).

4-crown	11¾d.	11d.	10d.	—
3-crown	10¾d.	10d.	9½d.	—
2-crown	9¾d.	9d.	8d.	—
1-crown	—	7d.	6½d.	—
"Plain"	—	—	—	5d.
Slabs	—	—	—	6¾l.

"Did he know where he was going when he started out on his joyride?"

"I should say not. He finished up in the hospital."

VICTORIAN DRIED FRUITS.

Reduced Levy.

The chairman of the Victorian Dried Fruits Board (Mr. Parker J. Moloney) announced that the amount to be contributed by packing houses on the dried fruits packed by them for the 1939 season has been fixed by the Board at 4/3 per ton.

Mr. Moloney said that for some time the Board has been planning to effect a reduction in the levy, and growers, no doubt, will be appreciative of the fact that it has been reduced by 9d., to 4/3. On only two previous occasions during the fourteen years of the Board's operations has it been possible to reduce the levy to this figure. He added that the Board's expenditure continued to show a progressive decrease in purely administrative expenses.

MILDURA DRIED FRUITS.

That the **Currants** will be of superior quality to the crops of last year and 20 per cent. over the last year in tonnage has been forecast by Mr. Peter Malloch, of the Irymple Packing Co., Irymple, Victoria.

Referring to the **Sultana** crop, Mr. Malloch said that it had, generally, recovered remarkably from the heat, and the quality showing on the vines was excellent.

EVADING THE LAW.

Seller of Dried Fruits Prosecuted.

AT the Violet Town (Vic.) Court on February 21, the Victorian Dried Fruits Board proceeded against T. Gibbs, of Earlston, for selling 25 cwts. of Currants which had not been packed in a registered packing house, and for refusing to give information in reply to a reasonable enquiry made by an inspector. Defendant admitted that the Currants had not been packed in a registered packing house.

The Police Magistrate (Mr. Williams) said that he regarded the offence as a serious one, as all growers should be placed on an equal footing, and no one grower should have an unfair advantage over the others. Defendant was found guilty on both charges, and fined a total amount of £7, with £6/18/8 costs.

STH. AUST. DRIED FRUITS BOARD.

At an interim meeting of the Sth. Aust. Dried Fruits Board on February 13, it was decided to adopt the report of the Interstate Consultative Committee and to fix the growers' levy at 4/3 per ton. The opening quotas for 1939 as recommended for all varieties were approved.

In regard to a proposal from the Sth. Aust. Packers' Association for a competitive trade exhibit at the next Royal Show, it was decided to prepare a statement on the lines of a similar event some years ago.

Further applications for packing house registration were approved.

Western Australia

TROPICAL AGRICULTURE IN W.A.

Bananas, Pineapples, Potatoes, Grapes and Citrus.

Big Developments in Tomato and Bean Culture.

TROPICAL AGRICULTURE in the Carnavon district has shown a very definite recovery following the difficult periods experienced in 1936-37, states the W. Aust. Department of Agriculture. Despite the low rainfall and low Winter temperatures, climatic conditions have been good for tropical agriculture, and the younger **Banana plantations** have made phenomenal growth, while most of the older plantations have made a remarkable recovery from last year's water shortage. Approximately 28,000 Banana corms were planted out, making the heaviest planting since 1934. Approximately 3,000 stools were destroyed, chiefly owing to low production brought about by the drought.

The **Cavendish** variety remains the most popular type, but many settlers are planting areas of the **Williams Hybrid** which has shown its adaptability to the district. Several thousand young plants have been imported from N.S.W. The **Viamama** variety has also shown promise, and the **Gros Michel** has been introduced, but is only in the experimental stage at present.

Banana production on the Gascoyne River plantations for the year was 15,510 tropical cases, a decrease of 5,561 cases compared with the previous year.

The Pineapple Crops have been light, owing to many settlers abandoning their blocks during the drought and concentrating on their Bananas. Tangle foot, wilt and nematode have also taken their toll. However, although this plant has not proved as adaptable as the Banana the quality has been excellent, and arrangements are being made to carry out experimental work with the acetylene treatment of plants during the coming year.

The **Papaya** crop is receiving attention as an adjunct to Banana growing.

The **citrus fruit** has been of splendid quality and there are prospects of excellent northern and inland markets. The Orange piercing moth has been absent this season, but scale insects, particularly Red Scale, have been particularly troublesome.

Grapes have also proved very profitable, and is possibly the most promising sideline of the settlers. Although there are only small areas of **Dates, Figs and Mangoes** in the Gascoyne area, growers have had no difficulty in disposing of their products.

Greater attention has been paid to **Bean and Tomato crops** resulting in increased shipments, returns from Tomatoes on the Victorian markets being particularly satisfactory. **Pumpkin and Potato** crops have been good, and there is a keen demand for same.

APPLE PACKING DEMONSTRATIONS.

Modified Crown Pack Adopted.

During the past month, at the request of the Mount Barker Co-op. Ltd., Apple packing demonstrations have been given by Mr. T. Flintoff in the Great Southern Districts.

Mr. Flintoff, who is District Inspector at Bridgetown, visited Tasmania last year to avail himself of special opportunities provided by the Tasmanian Government to observe the packing methods instituted by them since the visit of their Chief Horticulturist, Mr. P. H. Thomas, to the United States. Since his return, Mr. Flintoff has been giving demonstrations in the South-West and has developed a modified Crown pack for dump cases.

It is stated that this pack is very easily learned by experienced packers once the essentials have been grasped, and is superior to packs used formerly. This method of packing permits of the presentation of a case conforming to world standard requirements and with lesser danger of damage to the contents.

It is pointed out that the improvement of packing standards in other States, particularly Tasmania, is making it increasingly important to ensure that Western Australian standards are not only maintained, but improved. Minimum weight looked for (except in respect of light weight varieties and large sizes) is 42 lbs. nett both for Apples and Pears.

All local expert firms are co-operating in this matter, arrangements being in the hands of the district horticultural officer, Mr. H. Powell.

Nominations for Apple and Pear Board.

AT a recent meeting of the Mt. Barker Fruitgrowers' Association a report was given of the executive meeting held at Kojonup in December last. Arising from this report Mr. H. W. Soothill, who attended Sydney as their delegate, gave a comprehensive report on the fixing of the State quotas, whereby W.A. was eventually allotted 775,000 cases. He also gave an account of the passing of the Federal control measures.

After discussion re State representation on the Board provided under the Apple and Pear Organisation Act, it was generally decided that the names selected must be considered from a State-wide aspect.

It was proposed that the following nominations be submitted to the executive of the W.A. Fruitgrowers' Association consideration being given that at least four persons must be named—J. McN. Martin, H. W. Soothill, W. P. Scott and G. Parke.

Mr. T. Flintoff, of the Agricultural Department, addressed the meeting on matters relating to packing, and a resume of the schedule of boats as far as arranged was given to those present.

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THE MARKET GROWER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF VEGETABLE GROWERS' SOCIETY OF VICTORIA, THE KOONDROOK & BARHAM TOMATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION AND THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUITGROWERS' AND MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.

Vegetable Culture

MARKETING HOURS UNCHANGED — WIND BREAKS — EARLY CAULIFLOWERS — SPRING CABBAGES.

(By Our Correspondent.)

THE half-yearly meeting of the Vegetable Growers' Association of Victoria was held at Moorabbin on Thursday, February 9. The President, Mr. H. V. Barnett, presided, and there was a very good attendance of members from all the vegetable-growing districts.

The President, in his opening remarks, congratulated members on the great fight they were putting up in producing vegetables during the extended drought through which we are passing. The work, which is hard at any time, is doubly laborious when conditions are so dry and sandy. The soil, however, breeds hardy sons who do not give in in time of adversity, and no doubt when the rain does come, it will find them ready to go on.

The President also extended a welcome to the Hon. C. Gartside, M.L.C., and the Hon. P. J. Clarey, M.L.C., and thanked Mr. Gartside for the interest he had displayed during the past six months. On several occasions he had advised the Association on matters of importance.

Victoria Market Hours.

Mr. Clarey, M.L.C., was present by invitation to address the meeting on the question of a later starting hour of selling in the Queen Victoria Market.

The ruling hours of starting in the market at the present time are 5 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday, 6 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 4 a.m. on Saturday—the reason for the much earlier start on Saturday being that the green grocers find it necessary to get back to their shops and have their goods displayed by 8.30 a.m.

Mr. Clarey said that he was connected with the Storemen and Packers' Union, and his members advocated starting the market at 7 a.m. on all days except Saturday, when they suggested a 6 o'clock start.

He claimed these hours would make for much easier conditions, and cited the instance of the start of the Wednesday half holiday, when some thought it would ruin trade, and, then the change to the Saturday half-holiday. Now, he said, you would not find 5 per cent. of the employers wanting to give up the Saturday half-holiday. Of course, he continued, any change always brought some opposition, and he did not suggest any drastic change of hours, but felt that now, with the improved method of transport from horses to motor power, it should be possible for growers to start later and still get back to their gardens in reasonably good time.

Many questions were asked by growers. Mr. Ryan (Wheelers Hill) enquired if Mr. Clarey thought the City Council would give growers the right to stay in their stands an hour later in the event of a later start being made. He pointed out that as the conditions stood at present, growers had the right to stop in their stands until 10 o'clock, and although growers were anxious to leave the market as soon as possible, there were times, if conditions were unfavorable for selling, when four hours were not sufficient to dispose of a load of vegetables. This was one of the things of which growers were afraid, and, as the stands of growers are let again to retailers after 10 a.m., some disorganisation might occur on bad markets.

No resolution was passed, as vegetable growers at their last annual meeting had decided not to support any change of hours for twelve months. This matter will again come before the Association at their next annual meeting, and in the meantime growers will have an opportunity of coming to some conclusion. However, it does not appear that the time has arrived when growers could take advantage of a later start and so make conditions easier for themselves.

Soil Erosion.

Much damage has been done to vegetable gardens during the last few months by the sweeping winds which have taken place; nobody seems to have escaped altogether. Much land will be quite useless until some rain falls, for where the land is at all gravelly, the stones are lying all over the top of the ground.

Many growers are now protecting their gardens with swamp tea-tree hedges, which make a very effective break and are not costly to erect.

Planting Early Cauliflowers.

Early Cauliflowers should now be planted, and, while the land is so dry, will have to be watered twice when planting. It will be found a good method is to leave the second watering until the second day after planting, when the plant should have made a young root, and a little water then establishes it. If it is found necessary to again water the plants, a very effective way of getting water down to the root is to open a hole with a dibber (the tool which you plant with) In this way the water goes to the root immediately and does the most good.

As the water restrictions will not allow Cabbage and Cauliflowers to be sprinkled until six weeks after they are planted, this hand watering method will overcome the difficulty, if the hole that is made to water into is covered with loose earth two hours after they are watered.

Cabbages should also be planted now; also Cabbage seed sown in the beds for planting out in April. This is the Cabbage which cuts in the Spring.

Spring Crops.

Lettuce, Carrot, Parsnip, and Turnip seed can all be planted now with advantage. Lettuce seed should be planted as shallow as possible, for this seed throws a very slender shoot, and if too deep in the ground is not able to get through the soil.

Flat White Onion seed should now be planted in beds, as this seed requires a great deal of water to make it germinate. It is advisable to mulch the beds, and as soon as the seed is well shot, this mulch should be raked off, and the bed watered every three days.

CELERY BLIGHT.

Control Measures in N.S.W.

TO PREVENT the development of Late Blight in Celery crops, and to minimise the loss resulting from an outbreak of this disease, the following control measures are recommended by the N.S.W. Dept. of Agriculture:—

1. Practice field and seed bed sanitation, including the destruction of diseased Celery leaves and stalks by burning, the rotation of crops and the use of clean soil for the seed bed. If it is thought that the seed bed soil may be infested with the Late Blight fungus, it is advisable to treat it with a solution of formalin (1 in 50). This is applied at the rate of from ½ to 1½ gallons to the square foot, depending on the quantity necessary to saturate the soil. The soil is then covered for twelve hours with boards or bagging, after which the covers are removed and the soil is stirred several times within the next two weeks to allow the fumes to escape before planting.

2. If the seed is new, immerse it for 30 minutes in a 1 in 1,000 solution of corrosive sublimate (mercuric chloride), wash in water, and dry. If the seed is two or more years old, this treatment is not necessary. The 1 in 1,000 solution is prepared by adding ¼ oz. of the chemical to 12½ pints of water. Precautions are necessary in using corrosive sublimate owing to its poisonous nature, and its corrosive action on metallic containers.

3. Spray the plants in the seed bed and after they have been set out in the field, with Bordeaux mixture at a strength of 1:1:10. The plants should be sprayed at intervals of one to two weeks, or sufficiently often to keep all new growth covered with the fungicide. The seed bed applications are most important, and on no account should these be neglected.

POTATO MOTH.

Control Measures.

A N.S.W. Departmental leaflet on the Potato Moth summarises as follows the measures recommended for its control:—

(1) Plant deeply (about 5 inches) cultivate properly, and do not allow the tubers to become exposed.

(2) Plant seed free from moth infestation.

(3) After filling the bags do not cover the mouths with Potato tops or other debris.

(4) Remove the Potatoes from the field as soon as possible after harvesting.

(5) If the Potatoes are to be kept for seed or held before marketing, store in moth-proof rooms, bins, or tanks to prevent the access of moths.

(6) If the Potatoes have to be stored in a shed which is not moth-proof they should be covered as securely as possible with some suitable closely-woven material and examined at intervals for moth infestation.

(7) Should the tubers become infested they should be fumigated, preferably in a gas-tight bin, tank, or room, with carbon bisulphide.

(8) If a gas-tight receptacle is not available, the Potatoes may be fumigated under canvas or "duck" sheeting, the edges of which must be securely fastened down.

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TOMATOES IN W.A.

The Geraldton Tomato industry experienced a fair season in the year ended June, 1938, this being a considerable improvement on the previous year. The export figures were the highest for the past five years. There is an excellent local market for this product; during the year 70,440 cases were sent to the metropolitan markets, and, in addition, **112,608 cases were exported to the Eastern States.** In this district, approximately 42,000 packages of Peas and Beans were disposed of within the State.

There was very little virus disease trouble in the district, and the usual fungus diseases and insect pests were kept in check by spraying and dusting.

The **smooth skin variety of Tomato** is gaining in popularity even for local markets and the area under the crinkly type is decreasing.

TOMATO GROWING IN N.S.W.

Fifteen years ago no Tomatoes were grown commercially at Coff's Harbor, N.S.W., near the Queensland border. The season before last over 250,000 cases were harvested. This year the yield is expected to be greater than that. The average result secured by the best growers is about 1,000 cases an acre, but individual yields have reached as high as 3,000 cases an acre.

Great care is taken in seed selection, manuring, and general cultivation. Pests and diseases are controlled by dusting and spraying about every seven days during the growing period.

VICTORIAN ONION GROWERS.

£21 per Ton Considered Unpayable.

A largely attended meeting of Onion growers at Colac (Vic.), recently expressed their confidence in the Marketing Board in respect to signing of the agreement, with merchants who desired to be appointed agents for the Board.

It was also stated that £21 per ton was not a payable price, as it cost a grower from £20 to £25 an acre to produce his crop. Under the present conditions it was felt that growers should be receiving £30 per ton.

Owing to the drought, the Colac district would only produce about 6,000 tons instead of the average 27,000 tons.

"Why did you let that young man kiss you in the drawing room?"

"I thought it would be too cold in the garden."

VICTORIA

The Goulburn Valley

Bountiful Rains :: Excellent Prospects for Canning Peaches :: Mid-season Varieties Now Being Canned :: Pears for Canning and Export :: 1,000,000 Cases of Canned Fruit Sold for Export.

(By Our Correspondent.)

THE MOST JOYFUL news of the month is the welcome break-up of one of the severest droughts on record. On February 17 we received the first break, when 85 pts. of rain were recorded; prior to that the Goulburn Valley had experienced its second heat wave for the Summer of 1939, when for eight consecutive days the temperature averaged 100 to 105 degrees, with hot muggy nights.

But the best rainfall which the State has received for over three years commenced on Friday night, February 25. Light rains fell all day on the Saturday, while it rained heavily all night, and continued steadily all day on Sunday the 26th inst., and is still raining heavily at the time this report is written. Up to date, over 2 inches have fallen. It will be of untold value to the State; replenishing the depleted water supplies, and filling up storages for future irrigation, and above all, insuring abundance of Winter feed for hundreds of thousands of starving stock, as well as assuring bright prospects for the coming season. Let us not forget to say "thank You" to the Divine Creator of the Universe for the blessing of the much needed rain.

Fruitgrowers have been particularly fortunate, in that they have been able to get sufficient water throughout the season to mature their crops; even the late Pullar Cling Peaches have received good irrigations prior to the rain, and it is expected that the crop will be fully up to normal, with good clean fruit.

Great credit is due to the Water Commission of the State Rivers and Water Supply, and their officers, for the able manner in which they handled a difficult situation; by careful supervision and limited restrictions, they were able to give continuous supplies to fruit growers, which has been very much appreciated. However, the great lesson the recent drought has taught us, is **that more storages in the Goulburn River catchment area are absolutely essential** to safeguard the great canning fruit industry of the Goulburn Valley as well as the pastoral and dairying industries.

W.B.C. Pears.

The Williams Pear crop finished about the middle of February, and in many cases it was disappointing and much lighter than anticipated earlier in the season.

Codling moth was particularly prevalent. During the month of January there emerged a fresh brood of moths every week.

The supplies of Pears delivered to the canneries would be about half of that received in recent years.

Export Pears.

Messrs. S. J. Perry & Co., of Shepparton, are very busy receiving and packing export Pears for the British market, and although the crop is lighter than last year, the fruit is of excellent quality, being very clean with a clear waxen color. The varieties grown are chiefly Packhams, Josephine, Winter Nelis and Winter Cole.

Canneries.

The Shepparton Preserving Co., the Ardmona Fruit Products Co-operative Co. Ltd., and the Kyabram Canning Factory, are now working at full pressure where hundreds of men and women are employed. At present they are kept busy handling the mid-season Peach crop, which consists of the following varieties, starting with Levis Cling about the end of January: this variety is followed by Palora Cling, then comes Sim's Cling, the second week in February, followed by Phillip's Cling and Golden Queen. All these varieties are what is known as clear centres, being yellow right to the stone, and are much preferred by canners. The price paid to the grower is £9/10/- per ton (for clear centres).

Then follow the Goodman Choice, Pullars Cling and Thiele Cling. These varieties are known as red centres, and the price paid for them is £8/10/- per ton.

Fortunately this season there is very little fruit infested with oriental Peach moth, so that, although the fruit is not over large (caused by climatic conditions), it is very clean and of good quality, and canners should be able to put up an excellent pack for the overseas market.

Much of the Peaches that have been under canning size have been forwarded to the Melbourne and Sydney markets, where remunerative prices have been realised.

Large quantities of fruit are carted by fleets of transports to Albury and are there loaded into N.S.W. railway trucks: this system of transport is appreciated by the growers, as the consignments of fruit is lifted direct from the packing sheds in the orchards, and goes through in the cool of the night to Albury.

The **Tomato** growers in the Shepparton district have had an excellent season, for owing to the acute shortage of vegetables, prices on the Melbourne market have been most satisfactory, while sauce Tomatoes are in short supply, and good prices are being paid by factories for supplies.

Apple and Pear Board.

Names for Panel.

Both the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association and the Orchardists and Fruit Cool Stores Association were accepted by the authorities for submitting names for the panel from which growers' representatives will be chosen.

The V.F.M.A. nominated Messrs. W. P. Hutchinson, F. Moore, W. Young, and D. Black. The Cool Stores Association nomintaed Messrs. Hutchinson, Young, F. Petty and J. H. Lang.

Welcome State-Wide Rain.

The State-wide rain which fell about the middle of February brought temporary relief at least to many fruitgrowers, market gardeners and farmers.

Harcourt area received the best rain it has had for about two years, and although doubt was expressed by many growers as to the value of the downpour to varieties such as Jonathan and Munroe Favorite, which have been at a standstill for such a long time, it will probably benefit the later varieties such as Romes, Statesman and Yates.

On the Mornington Peninsula the glorious rain of 118 inches was very heartening. One effect will be that the Jonathans (the main variety grown there) will now be well colored. More rain is needed.

PANTON HILLS.

After a very brief discussion it was decided at a recent meeting of the Fruitgrowers' Association to **abandon the Autumn Show for 1939.** It was considered that as no rain had fallen in January the show would be but a poor advertisement for the district, and this action would not affect future shows.

The Hon. W. H. Everard, M.L.A., has replied to representations for a **district water supply** by stating he has placed the request before the State Rivers Department. In referring to the claims of the district, Association members also referred to the bushfire menace. It is considered a watershed with reservoir established in Nink's Valley, North Queenstown, would do much to alleviate the danger of loss by drought and fire.

Because of the acute shortage of water, fruitgrowers are having a hard struggle to bring their fruit up to size. However, the last rains have done something to alleviate the problem.

BLACKBURN COOL STORES DESTROYED BY FIRE.

A disastrous fire occurred at the Blackburn Cool Stores Pty. Ltd., Victoria, on February 20, when the premises were totally destroyed at a loss of £25,000.

Fortunately the stores were not full, local growers only starting picking for storage a week earlier, but between 7,000 and 8,000 cases of Pears were lost. Although the premises were fully insured, some of the fruit was not.

Fortunately the new 20,000 case cool store recently completed by the Southern Victoria Pear Packing Co., close by, did not catch fire. This was undoubtedly due to the wisdom of the directors in deciding to erect brick walls.

DROUGHT—THEN FLOODS.

Victoria received a soaking rain almost without intermission at the end of February. Rainfall varied from 2 to 9 inches. Several parts of the State became flooded.

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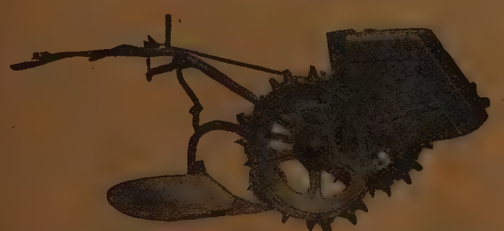

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VICTORIA—(Continued)

WATER SUPPLY FOR PENINSULA.

A deputation from the Mornington Peninsula to the Minister for Water Supply, Mr. Old, was introduced by Mr. Kirton, M.L.A., on February 22, requesting better water supply. The Minister replied that the scheme for giving the Peninsula an assured water supply would be completed, and it was hoped to have water available at Portsea by the end of 1940.

Somerville Show.

The Somerville and District 43rd Annual Show will be held at the Somerville Showgrounds on Thursday, March 16. There is a wide range of prizes for fruit, stock, vegetables cooking, etc. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, Charles H. Jenkins, Somerville, Vic.

Pakenham:

Mr. S. Brown, Pakenham, reports that owing to the 4¼in. rainfall received, prospects look bright for the later varieties of Apples, particularly Yates. The generous rain, however, will not greatly benefit varieties such as Jonathans.

APPLES BEFORE GOING TO BED.

Professor Harvey Sutton (Sydney University), Chairman of the N.S.W. Nutrition Committee, urges parents never to give children biscuits or sweets when going to bed. This habit is ruinous to the children's teeth. Fruit should be given the last thing before tucking the little ones up in bed. For this purpose there is nothing better than an Apple or piece of an Apple, but all fruit is good.

Young Farmers' Clubs

Activity in Victorian Fruitgrowing Districts.

The following is a list of Young Farmers' Clubs in the pome fruits districts of Victoria — Army Road Pakenham, Pakenham, Upper Pakenham, Emerald, Monbulk, Bayswater, Ringwood East, Ringwood, Bayswater North, Belgrave, Vermont, Fern Tree Gully Lower, Notting Hill, Croydon, Croydon North, Boronia, Ravenswood South, Mandurang, Sedgwick, Shepparton East, Koyuga East, Mooroopna North, Stanhope, Tatura, Tallygaroopna, Kyvalley, Grahamvale, Lemnos, Mount Waverley, Tyabb Railway Station, Tyabb, Red Hill South, Drouin, Hepburn, Campbell's Creek, Scoresby, Longwarry.

"My dream is a five-day week," states a trade unionist. Ours is a five-day week-end.

The Editor would be pleased to receive reports from Young Farmers' Clubs throughout Australia and New Zealand. Copy should be in hand not later than the 22nd of each month. Address the Editor, "Fruit World and Market Grower," 439 Kent-street, Sydney, or Box 1944 G.P.O., Melbourne.

YOUNG FARMERS CLUBS.

The Young Farmers' Club movement is extending throughout the world, and rapid strides have been made by young farmers' clubs in Great Britain, Canada, the United States and New Zealand. England now has a membership of 10,000 with five full-time organisers, assisted by many agricultural officers; Canada, 20,000, and the United States leads the world with 1,300,000 members, supervised by 1,250 country agents. The Canadian Government in particular assists the movement greatly.

As so many of the areas throughout the State have been burnt out, the following mixture may prove of use to members, particularly in the Gippsland area—Perennial rye grass 10 lb.; cocksfoot, 8 lb.; perennial red clover, 1 lb.; Bokhara sweet clover, 1 lb.; white Dutch clover, 1 lb.; subterranean clover, 2 lb.; total, 23 lb. This is enough to cover an acre.

It would be advisable to run the brush harrow over the ground soon after sowing, otherwise the birds and ants will get a big proportion of the seed.

Interstate co-operation is recommended, both as regards visits by youths and in assistance with stock movements from drought-stricken areas and districts affected by bush fires.

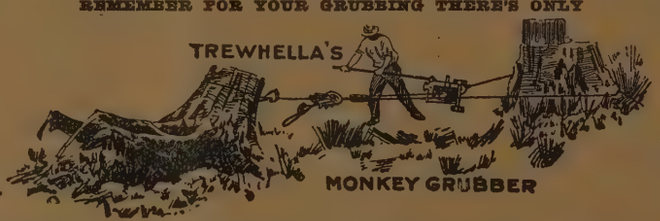
(See page 36 for interesting notes re Young Farmers' Clubs in N.Z.)

ARE YOU GRUBBING?

Previous experience had convinced me that to be really efficient a grubbing machine should have ample power and ropes that will meet the heavy demands required of them. I found that shovel and axe work is very costly either by itself or in conjunction with a machine. The machine that offered these features with a host of others, was THE "MONKEY" GRUBBER.

It gave me the power of 260 pairs of hands in a simple and compact form; the lever is short, so that I am able to stand firm-footed and get the full stroke. There are two speeds in the machine, as well as an automatic release that allows me to let off a strain, or as the machine will work in any position, it comes in for all jobs that would require a chain block. It is taken to the job on a pair of wheels like a barn truck, and is rigged for work in a few minutes. The ropes are in lengths that I find easy to handle, and each one is fitted with hook and loop couplings, so simple and absolutely IT for effectiveness. The makers have included a sturdy snatch block with a novel method of securing to the ropes, and also a fine type of firm gripping rope shortener. The latter makes it very easy to accommodate the lengths of rope to the tree or stump being pulled, and is quickly released from the rope. The combination of so many time and labor saving features makes the "Monkey" Grubber a superior grubbing outfit.

REMEMBER FOR YOUR GRUBBING THERE'S ONLY



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FRUIT SECTION.

Associated Growers' Selling Agency.	W. H. Southcott.
P. Brooks.	F. G. Stevens & Son.
Boot & Carter.	E. T. Stanton.
W. E. Bromley.	F. J. Salmon & Co.
Fred Chilton.	Sam Yick & Co.
P. W. Chew & Co.	Trathen & Hall.
Seymour Dening.	D. C. Turnbull.
C. Gibbs & Son.	Joshua Terrey.
J. Hawke.	R. Valentine & Sons.
Hay Bros.	L. L. Vince.
Hop Lee & Co. Ltd.	A. H. Walker & Son.
Hie Lee & Co.	Wilson Bros.
John Jenkins.	Ward & Felton.
J. W. Kirkwood.	Watkins & Evans.
J. J. Mason.	A. Weymark & Son
McKellar & Devlin.	Ltd.
Mitchell & Lawless.	Wing On & Co. Ltd.
W. Musgrove & Son.	Wing Sang & Co.
Neil Jolly & Co.	Wing Tiy & Co.
F. H. G. Rogers.	H. P. Woodward.
Reedy Bros.	Yocksui Bros.

VEGETABLE SECTION.

B.P.B. & Co.	A. Leedow.
Boot & Carter.	Messent & Gauld.
E. Cooke.	Mitchell & Galvin.
C. Cooper.	G. H. Molesworth.
H. M. Clarke.	E. W. Parker & Son
Clarke & Son.	W. J. Paull.
R. G. Clarke.	S. J. Rhodes.
J. Clayton & Son.	Reedy Bros.
W. J. Curtis.	W. H. Southcott.
Dening Bros.	F. G. Stevens & Son.
Dunston & Norris.	Thompson & Smith.
C. C. Greentree & Son.	A. R. Terrill.
J. Hawke.	A. B. Valentine.
	Yocksui Bros.

P. S. MACDERMOTT, General Secretary, 215a Thomas St., Haymarket, Sydney.

Export & Commercial News

Marketing the Lemon Crop

Factory Prices Were Lower Last Season

Growers Could Market more Lemons in Cases During the June-August Period.

Consideration of Sevilles and Grapefruit for Factories.

THERE WAS an interesting discussion at the Annual Conference of the Victorian Central Citrus Association on the subject of Lemon marketing and factory citrus fruit.

Reporting on the sales of factory citrus, the general manager (Mr. A. W. Schwennesen) said that the past season had been one of the most difficult experienced for some years, particularly with regard to Lemons.

In the early part of the season a careful survey of the **Lemon** position was made which indicated that values for factory Lemons should approximate those ruling the previous season.

The two principal factors affecting the position were a much lighter supply from the metropolitan area for the period May to September, and the crop in the irrigation areas not being any heavier than the previous year.

In the circumstances £10 per ton was considered a reasonable price to expect; this allowed for the price for 1937 having been perhaps a little high. Some of the leading manufacturers, however, considered this price to be too high and they sought to purchase some of their requirements in N.S.W. at a price of £9 per ton. This they succeeded in doing, and this fact, combined with a poorer demand by manufacturers generally, was responsible for the price for factory Lemons being stabilised at a lower level than at first appeared necessary.

Unfortunately even then there were more factory Lemons available than were required, and these had to be placed on the case market with a consequent lowering of values.

Actually greater quantities of Lemons could have been marketed in cases during the June-August period at profitable prices.

Some growers took full advantage of the good prices ruling at that time, and sold a very big proportion of their crops. The management of the Lemon position has always presented considerable difficulty, and the practice of

holding large quantities

in the expectation of selling them to manufacturers has often proved a very doubtful one.

Continuing, Mr. Schwennesen said that the most common-sense method for growers to adopt in the marketing of their Lemons would be to make full use of the market during the early months of the Winter season, while payable prices are obtainable. Other varieties of citrus were not in very good demand, only very small quantities of Oranges were required by manufacturers at prices from £7 to £7/10/- per ton.

Sevilles were in light supply and well colored smooth skinned fruit of good size realised up to £14 per ton. Rough skinned and small fruit sold down to as low as £8.

Only very small quantities of **Grapefruit** were required for factories, as the export of juice is no longer a profitable business. An effort had been made to interest manufacturers in using this variety for jam-making, but so far without much success. Late in the season, however, an enquiry from a leading manufacturer for a quantity of **Grapefruit for jam** had been received, but the price was so high as to stop the sale. There seemed to be good grounds for hoping that a trial would be made with this fruit next season. A late enquiry for Grapefruit for juice purposes had also been received but nothing eventuated because of the scarcity of this variety. It seemed certain that there would be some increase in the demand for this variety next season, but it was unlikely that factory requirements would ever be very great in relation to the total crop.

Discussion by Delegates.

In reply to Mr. J. A. Rickard (Merbein), who asked if there was any possibility of Grapefruit displacing Sevilles for jam, the general manager said that manufacturers were not very enthusiastic on that point. One of the biggest manufacturers had told him that his firm had been making **Seville Marmalade** for years, and did not want to run the risk of losing its trade by substituting Grapefruit. It was agreed that Grapefruit made a good marmalade, but it did not sell as readily as Seville marmalade.

Mr. R. Hollins (Red Cliffs) said that a Mildura manufacturer had found that **good Grapefruit cordial cannot be made early in the season, and late in the season he has paid as much as £18 a ton for Grapefruit of the proper maturity.** This manufacturer says that our Grapefruit cordial does not compare favorably with the Californian article in the early part of the season, but that later on when the **Grapefruit** was sweet it compared more than favorably. It might be possible for manufacturers to take the Grapefruit all the year round and blend the juice.

APPLE PUBLICITY IN U.K.

New Zealand Conducts a Poster Competition.

Under the auspices of the New Zealand Fruit Export Control Board, competitions were recently conducted in England for the best poster prepared by children, posters to be based on the motto, "New Zealand Apples bring health and happiness to the children of the Motherland." The competition was won by the boys of the Tollemache Road Central School, Birkenhead, the work being of an exceptionally high standard. Much publicity was gained through the press, and the presentation of the cup was made quite a social event by the arrival of the High Commissioner of New Zealand, the Rt. Hon. W. J. Jordan, accompanied by Mrs. Jordan and Mr. H. Turner, London Manager of the N.Z. Fruit Export Control Board, at the school. A souvenir booklet was distributed to commemorate the occasion.

CANADIAN ADVERTISING.

Campaign to Boost Sales in U.K.

APPROXIMATELY 3,000 motor trucks and 600 buses operating mostly in the Greater London district and in the larger cities of the United Kingdom, displayed large poster panels featuring Canadian canned Tomatoes as the first step in Canada's publicity drive to boost the sale of her products.

The posters carried the following appeal: "Canada Calling You to Brighter Meals. Use Canadian Canned Tomatoes." In this manner the Canadian Government's 1938 Canada Calling Campaign was inaugurated under the supervision of the Department of Trade and Commerce. Other Canadian food products were similarly advertised later.

Not only were Canadian canned Tomatoes featured on the streets of London and other large cities in the United Kingdom to increase the consumer demand, but a concerted campaign was carried on simultaneously to canvass the trades and to urge upon them the necessity of stocking a continuous supply of these Canadian products. Salesmen and distributors were initiated in the latest methods of featuring Canadian products, large customers were called upon personally, store displays were arranged and samples of goods furnished. In addition committees from the different sections of the trades were appointed to work in co-operation with the general publicity campaign, thus enabling importers and distributors to share in planning the best means of promoting continuous sales.

The poster displays on canned Tomatoes are being followed up by advertisements placed intermittently in the larger London dailies and in the London suburban weekly press, likewise featuring Canadian canned Tomatoes.

Make Your Export Produce a Safe Investment by Shipping to and through

SOUTHAMPTON

PEARS and APPLES

A few days saved mean the difference between profit and loss . . . . . .

There are many reasons why you should ship your perishable produce—particularly PEARS—through Southampton, England's most modern port. Here are some of them:—

Substantial local markets with a fruit sales room actually on Southampton Docks Estate. Quicker and frequently cheaper transit to Southern and Midland Towns. The Southern Railway of England runs express freights from Southampton to all these centres, saving days and money.

London is reached by express freight trains in three hours from Southampton—All fruit unloaded in Southampton to-day will be at Covent Garden, Spitalfields, or Borough Market for early morning market to-morrow, with days saved as against fruit discharged by ships calling at Continental and other outports first. The slight additional cost is altogether outweighed by the tremendous advantages of days saved.

Deterioration is avoided by special arrangements for sorting to mark, and quick insulated trains direct to London.

Southampton cold stores available for storage of produce for local consumption or Midland deliveries. Pears can be discharged from ship to cold store in less than 5 minutes.

Before the next exporting season, consider these advantages, and ask for Southampton Discharge for London Markets.

THE QUICKEST WAY TO BRITAIN'S MARKETS

For rates and all general information, write to the Australasian Agents:

SOUTHAMPTON DOCKS

Owned and Managed by

SOUTHERN RAILWAY OF ENGLAND

Australasian Agents:

H. W. BEVAN & CO. PTY. LTD.

71 YORK STREET, SYDNEY

"DUERDIN" HOUSE, 14-16 BOND STREET, MELBOURNE

WESTRALIAN FARMERS LTD.

Another Successful Year.

The last annual report of the Board of Directors of Westralian Farmers Ltd., is probably the most encouraging for the past ten years, partly because, although the net profit of £23,568 is smaller than that of last year, the company has finally worked off their "dead horse," which is a legacy from the years before 1930, and although turnover is increasing in many of the separate activities of the company, care is being taken to ensure that bad debts are being kept to a minimum.

Business is expanding in the various branches, the new skin drying and packing shed at Robbs Jetty being one of the most up to date in the Commonwealth. The volume of business transacted by the insurance department showed a substantial increase, the total revenue being 25 per cent. greater than for 1936-37. The total turnover for the machinery department increased by £63,500; increases were made in the stock department and the printing and fertilizer department, also the wool department.

Westralian Farmers Ltd. have a substantial trade in fruit export.

VISITOR FROM ENGLAND.

Mr. R. H. H. Roe, of J. O. Sims Ltd., London.

Mr. Richard H. H. Roe, Director of Messrs. J. O. Sims Ltd., Fruit Brokers, Commercial Sale Room, London, visited Australia during January and February. Mr. Roe made contact with the industry in all of the Australian States, and was impressed with the appearance and extent of Tasmanian crops this season. With regard to the better prices which ruled during the 1938 season, Mr. Roe is definitely of the opinion that this good result was very largely due to the regulated programme of arrivals of fruit ships from Australia under the auspices of the Australian Apple and Pear Council, in addition to the damage by frost to the English soft fruit crops. The United Kingdom markets should not be loaded with too great a volume of Apples in any one week if satisfactory values are to be maintained. There was a definite improvement in the pack of Victorian Apples last season.

Mr. Roe stated that his firm handled an average of approximately 60,000 to 80,000 packages of fruit each week throughout the year. Their business was confined to imports from abroad as they found they could best serve their overseas clients by not handling English fruits.

Messrs. J. O. Sims Ltd. are the sole representatives in London of the Port Huon Fruitgrowers' Co-op. Association Ltd., Hobart. During his stay in Victoria, Mr. Roe was accompanied by his firm's Victorian representative, Mr. F. Cave, who introduced Mr. Roe to the President of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association (Mr. W. P. Hutchinson), and other well-known growers. Mr. Roe sailed by the S.S. "Stratheden," and will thus be on the same ship as the three States Supervising Officers Messrs. J. M. Ward (Victoria), S. H. Greuber (Tasmania), and A. G Strickland (South Australia).

NEW REGISTRATION.

United Fruit Growers Co., c/o T. T. Henery & Co., 26 O'Connell-street, Sydney, fruit and vegetable merchants. Com. 24/1/39. Proprs.: Frederick W. Franks and William Davis. Reg. 23/1/39.

Cable Address: DAVIS, MELBOURNE. Code: "ABC," 4th and 5th Editions. Box, G.P.O. 148B.

J. DAVIS PTY. LTD., *Fruit Merchants*

8 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET

Consignments solicited. One Trial Invited. Best Prices obtained. Prompt Advice and Payment.
Telephone, F 3232. Bankers: The National Bank of Australasia, 271 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Telegraphic Address: "Listeria," Melbourne. Telephone: F 6341. Private: Win. 4535.

Codes: Bentley's A.B.C 5th Edition. **IMPORTANT TO GROWERS** Box 555D, Melbourne.

Australia looks to you to produce and sell good fruit, but to **PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT** and have it badly sold is a reflection on your business ability. To sell well is as important as to produce well. The greatest combination that can exist beneficially is that between a painstaking fruitgrower and a painstaking salesman.

If you have good fruit to market, you will find in the firm of **GEORGE LISTER PTY. LTD.** the service you require. Established over 50 Years.

GEO. LISTER PTY. LTD. 12 Wholesale Fruit Market, Franklin Street, Melbourne.
(Managing Director: J. R. VAIL) Bankers: The Commercial Banking Coy. of Sydney Ltd. (Melbourne Branch).

Silbert, Sharp & Davies
Pty. Ltd.
FRUIT MERCHANTS
17 Wholesale Fruit Market
'Phone: F 2287.

CONSIGNMENTS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES
Assured Highest Market Rates.
P. A. PATRIKEOS
36 Wholesale Fruit Market
Melbourne
Telephone: F2287.

A. MILLIS & SONS
34 Wholesale Fruit Market
EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS
Specialty—Prompt Returns. Cheques every Wednesday. Phone: F 1862

J. W. ROSS
13 Wholesale Fruit Market
WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANT
Prompt Returns and Sales Notes Daily.
Tel., F 2426.

G. WOOLF
29-30 Wholesale Fruit Market
WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANT
& COMMISSION AGENT
Telephone: F 5550.

BELL, BANSON Pty. Ltd.
Wholesale Fruit Merchants,
20 Wholesale Fruit Market, Melb.
CONSIGNMENTS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES SOLICITED.
Tel.: F1023; Private: JW2528.
Bankers: E.S. & A. Bank, Market Branch.

T. Stott & Sons *FRUIT MERCHANTS* ESTABLISHED 1882.
26 Wholesale Fruit Market, Melbourne. And at VICTORIA MARKETS.
COUNTRY AND INTERSTATE ORDER TRADE SUPPLIED.
SHIPPING No. 41. PROMPT SETTLEMENTS. CONSIGNMENTS SOLICITED.
PHONE: F 4370. Bankers: Bank of Australasia, Melbourne.

Regular Supplies of Quality Fruit well Packed and Graded will realize the Best Prices.

H. LOUEY PANG & CO. PTY. LTD.
FRUIT AND PRODUCE MERCHANTS
No. 4 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE
G.P.O. Box No. 795F, Melbourne.
References—E. S. & A. Bank, 225 Swanston St., Melbourne.
Telegraphic Address: "PANGANCO." GOOD PRICES ASSURED Cheques Sent Promptly. F 6532.

Tim Young & Co. Pty. Ltd.
WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANTS
18 Wholesale Fruit Market
Growers can be assured of receiving the very best service and prompt returns.
Cable Address "TIYOUNG"
A.B.C. Code, 5th Edition.
Box 28a, G.P.O., Melbourne.
TELEPHONE, F 4321
Bankers:
E.S. & A. Bank Ltd., Melbourne—325 Swanston Street.
Stencil or Labels on application.

Telephones: F 4394 (After hours) F 5575 SHIPPING NO. **91** Telegrams and Cables: "PAXINOS," Melbourne.
D. S. LUCAS & CO.
Accredited Selling Agent S.A. Tomato, Celery, and West Australia Tomato Association. Fruit and Banana Merchant, Importer and Exporter, and General Commission Agent.
PROMPT RETURNS. £1,000 FIDELITY BOND.
9 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, Box 4076, G.P.O., Melbourne.

H. & S. FRANKEL
(Established 35 Years)
No. 44 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE.
Growers in all States are invited to send consignments. Highest market rates and prompt settlements.
Telephones—
Store: F 4874.
Private F 1555 & FW 8711.
Bankers—
Commonwealth Bank of Australia.
"Growers' Interests further protected by our Fidelity Bonds."

A. E. PITT
Established 1893.
Member of Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Vic.
14 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE.
Consignments Solicited from all States.
Growers Will Receive Top Market Value and Prompt Returns.
Fidelity Bond Guarantee for £1,000
Pea and Bean Stands,
11 and 12 Victoria Market.
Reference—E.S. & A. Bank, Elizabeth St. Branch, Melbourne.
Phone: F 5035.

Producers' Co-operative Distributing Society Ltd.

Are now paying a Bonus of 15% on all Commissions charged to regular clients of the Fruit & Vegetable Section for year ending Sept., 1938

Send Your Consignments TO US

MELBOURNE & SYDNEY.

L. P. Rosen & Son

Noted Sydney Nursery Covers 60 Acres

ONE of the best-known fruit tree and rose nurseries in New South Wales is that conducted alongside the Pennant Hills-road, Carlingford, near Sydney, under the style of L. P. Rosen & Son. For nearly forty years the name of Rosen has been associated with a quality article.

The nurseries were commenced in 1901 by Mr. L. P. Rosen, and in the course of time the original allotment was added to, until to-day sixty acres are in use. It is proposed shortly to clear an additional four acres. The nursery is ideally situated on sloping ground, bi-sected by a small creek.

In 1921, Mr. Rosen retired, and the business was carried on by his son, Mr. C. W. Rosen, and Mr. J. Larsen. The latter, by the way, served throughout the Great War with the 2nd battn. Mr. C. W. Rosen passed away in 1932, and Mr. Larsen became the sole proprietor, who employs from fifteen to twenty men, according to the season.

To the layman there is an enormous number of young citrus and pome fruit trees under cultivation, yet in some types all avalable stocks have already been booked.

There are thousands upon thousands of citrus plants in various stages of development. One of the accompanying illustrations of a corner of the citrus section will convey some idea of the extensiveness of the citrus areas. In addition, Rosen & Son possess some 45,000 Peach trees of all leading varieties: 30,000 Apple trees on seedling and Northern Spy; 15,000 Pears, and Apricots, Nectarines and Plums in large quantities.

Apart from fruit trees, the firm caters very extensively for the rose trade, which is supplied from among the 50,000 fine sturdy plants growing on the property.

Mr. J. Larsen standing in a paddock of young citrus trees.

Thirty thousand citrus trees ready for despatch to orchardists

In conversation at the nursery recently with a "Fruit World" representative, Mr. Larsen said Valencia seemed to be most in demand among citrus growers, but large quantities of bud-selected Washington Navels were still called for by orchardists. Some imported stocks are also available.

Mr. Larsen told us that the citrus was grown on virgin ground, and he was from year to year preparing new land in which to plant. By this method he was getting a superior root system, and a much hardier tree, making it better for the orchardist when transplanting.

"It has been an abnormal season," he added, "but thanks to the splendid Spring rains, the young trees had a wonderful start. Although they did not grow much after the early part of December, they are nice and sturdy, and should transplant really well, being very hardy."

L. P. Rosen & Son are agents for, and distributors of, Kunde secateurs and budding and grafting knives, which are sent all over Australia. Orchardists believe these secateurs and knives are made from a superior quality of steel to any others procurable in Australia.

CAPITAL INCREASED.

Buzacott-Wolseley Ltd., Sydney, have increased their capital from £125,000 to £150,000 by the creation of 25,000 new £1 shares.

PASSILA FRUIT PRODUCTS.

Reconstruction of Company.

The goodwill trade mark, factory and plant of Passila Fruit Products Ltd. (in liquidation), Dromana, Victoria, have been purchased from the liquidators (Messrs. W. F. Rowe and H. Chapman) on behalf of a syndicate, which intends to form a new company under the title of Pasilla Fruit Products Pty. Ltd., with capital of £10,000 in £1 shares.

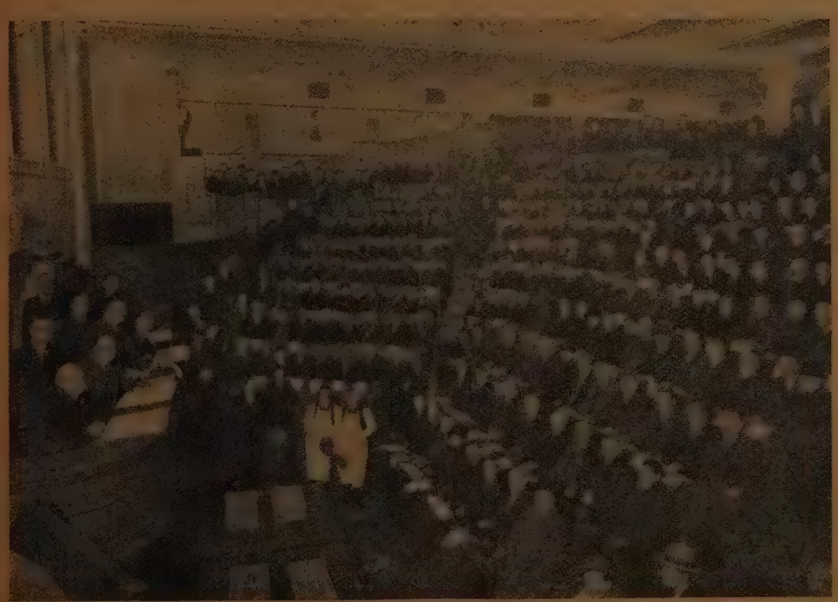
Plans made to extend the activities of the company include the obtaining of Passionfruit from other States and continuing activities all the year round, and extending to the pure fruit trade. Providing the company can meet orders, it is stated that definite connections have been made with overseas firms. A considerable saving in costs is expected to be made in factory operations.

Many of the original shareholders are in the new company.

Directors are: Messrs. W. P. Tresise (managing director), T. B. Guest and A. F. Crosby. The secretary of the company is Mr. R. B. Forbes, 440 Little Collins-street, Melbourne. The sole distribution of the company's products will be undertaken by Messrs. W. P. Tresise & Co., who state that the products of the original company are still on the market.

More than seventy-five fresh foods —fruits, vegetables, meats, poultry, and fish—are being frozen now in U.S.A. for out-of-season consumption.

The PORT of LIVERPOOL



One of the two Auction Rooms where Australian Fruit is sold every week.

FRUIT is one of the most important commodities imported into Liverpool, excellent dock facilities ensuring economic handling and prompt despatch. The bulk of the Fruit is sold at auction in two well-equipped salerooms.

Buyers attending these auctions come from all the Midland towns, the North of England, Glasgow, and Ireland.

By virtue of the excellent system of classification buyers have the utmost confidence in the condition of the fruit, and they are, therefore, prepared to pay up to the last penny of its value.

SHIP YOUR FRUIT TO THE
"GATEWAY OF THE WEST"

H. W. Richards

Representative for the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board

31 Macquarie Place,
SYDNEY, N.S.W. *Phone: B 5200*

FRESH FRUITS (SHEPPARTON) LIMITED IN LIQUIDATION.

It was decided at an extraordinary meeting of shareholders early in February, of Fresh Fruits (Shepparton) Limited, Victoria, to go into voluntary liquidation.

The chairman of directors (Mr. L. J. Michell) said the company had been faced with increased wages, which had risen 25 per cent., and in consequence packing charges had to be increased 25 per cent. Because growers had failed to send in their fruit the position had imposed a great strain on the manager and himself.

In 1936 the cash sales were £11,089, but since they were only £971.

LONDON FRUIT AND PRODUCE EXCHANGE.

At the Seventeenth Annual General Meeting of the Fruit and Produce Exchange of Great Britain Ltd., held in London recently, the annual report and financial statement submitted revealed a total of £75,944/12/11.

It is proposed to pay a dividend of 20 per cent. less tax on the non-cumulative preference shares, and of 25 per cent. on the ordinary shares. A dividend on the 5½ per cent. cumulative first preference shares, amounting to £2,750, was paid on October 1 last in respect of the year to September 30.

After making provision for N.D.C., income tax and the writing off of trade marks there is a balance to be carried forward of £47,493/13/4.

During the year under review the Company lost by death Mr. Geo. J. Webb, one of the founders and a member of the Board of Directors since its formation.

HIGH PRICE OF VEGETABLES.

Health Officer says "Eat More Fruit."

During the past month vegetable prices soared to record prices. With best Cabbages retailing at 1/9 each, greengrocers cut them into halves and quarters, as few housewives bought whole Cabbages at this price.

The Melbourne City Health Officer (Dr. Dale) states that the deficiency in diet caused by lack of vegetables could to some extent be mitigated by people eating as much fruit as possible, and eggs and milk.

VICTORIA.

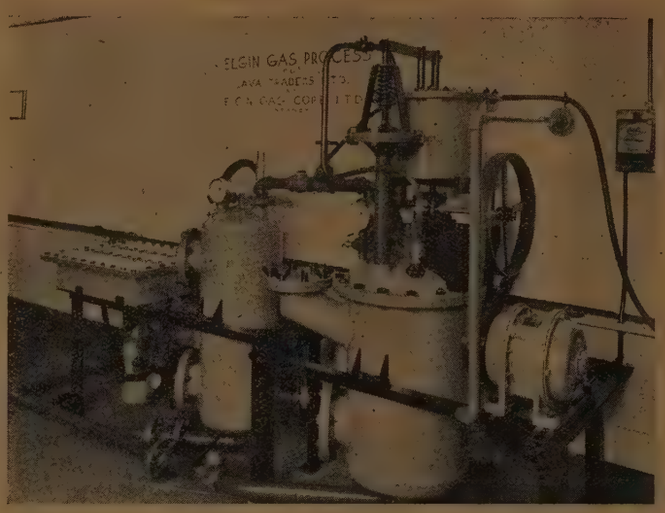
The first Apple shipment left Victoria to the United Kingdom on February 8, on the "Anchises"; 11,000 cases of Pears left for London in the "California Star" on February 8.

Although this year's quantity is much reduced, growers are receiving higher prices, and it is anticipated that the British market will open on a favorable tone.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES IN SYDNEY.

Mr. H. McKay, Tasmanian Government Marketing Officer in Sydney, reported that for the week ending February 17, the Sydney arrivals ex "Zealandia" and "Wanaka" were approximately as follows: 7,854 cases Apples for Sydney, 29 cases Apples for Newcastle, 154 cases Apples for Brisbane, 632 half-cases stone fruit.

Because of the largely increased supplies of green Peas, Tomatoes and other vetgetables, values had receded.



ELGIN GAS STORAGE.

Successful Experiments With Fruit.

For several years experiments have been conducted in Sydney and elsewhere with a new method of cold store known as the Elgin gas.

The principal advantage claimed for the Elgin Gas system is that it enables fruit and other commodities to be kept over a long period at a temperature considerably in excess of that possible with ice and ammonia pipe refrigeration.

A few years ago the Municipal Council of Sydney made a chamber available to the Elgin Gas Corporation, and Mr. H. J. Payne, the company's engineer, conducted exhaustive experiments. Subsequently, the Blue Star Line installed the system on one of their vessels, and Mr. Payne made several trips to London as supervisor of trial shipments of all varieties of fresh fruit.

We understand that a stage has now been reached when construction of Elgin Gas plants on a commercial scale is contemplated. One has already been installed in Western Australia, and is illustrated herewith.

Fruit Export from S. Africa

Substantial Quantities for Germany.

Markets Sought in U.S.A.

Capetown, 20/2/39.

S. Africa is shipping deciduous fruit to the value of £60,000 to Germany during the next few months, as the result of the recent Trade Agreement.

Efforts are being made to open up the American market for direct shipments. A Trade Agreement between the Union of S. Africa and U.S.A. is under consideration.

City Fruit Markets Sydney N.S.W.

Licensed under Farm Produce Agents Act.

F. CHILTON

ESTABLISHED 189-

Fruit Commission Agent

SHIPPING NO. 56.

HIGHEST MARKET PRICES — PROMPT RETURNS — RELIABLE ADVICE.

Registered Address for Telegrams and Cables: "CHILTONS."

References:—Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket, Sydney, and Growers throughout Australia.

CITY FRUIT MARKETS, SYDNEY.

N. & A. Fruit and Produce Pty. Ltd.

Licensed Farm Produce Agents. (No. 2253)

HEAD OFFICE: 2 STEEL STREET, NEWCASTLE.

References: Bank of New South Wales. Shipping Numbers on Application.

N&A

BRANCH: 6 CITY MARKETS, SYDNEY.

Telegraphic Address: "NANDA."

PHONES: Newcastle, 1365. Sydney, MA 8428.

WE WANT YOUR BUSINESS — IN RETURN, WE OFFER GOOD AND PROMPT SERVICE.

Shipping No. 281

H. P. WOODWARD

Licensed Farm Produce Agent

ALL SALES CONDUCTED UNDER PERSONAL SUPERVISION

City Fruit Markets, Quay St., Sydney

Phone: MA 2612. Private: XB 2875.

Selected Agent for:—
Tasmanian Fruit Board.
Tamar Coy., Tatana, Launceston.
Goulburn Valley Fruit Growers' Association.
Westralian Tomato Growers' Association.
Southern Queensland Tomato Growers' Association.
North Coast Tomato Growers' Association.

References: Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket, Sydney.

GROWERS!—Consign your Fruit to—

JAMES SLATER PTY. LTD.

21 CITY MARKETS, SYDNEY.

Postal Address: Box 36, Haymarket P.O., Sydney.

Established 1881.

SHIPPING NO. 19. 88 VIC. & TAS.

Stencils, Advice Notes, etc., on Application.

SERVICE WITH SECURITY.

HOPKINS & LIPSCOMBE

Proprietor: STANLEY H. POGSON.

LICENSED FARM PRODUCE AGENT
MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

SHIPPING NOS.— 58 Vic. and Tas., 68 Q'land.

Bankers: Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket, SYDNEY.

FRUITGROWERS!

For Satisfactory Results, Send Your Fruit to

F. H. G. ROGERS

Fruit Selling Expert,

MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

Shipping No. 83. Established 1900.

Telephone MA 2946. Established 1900.

W. MUSGROVE & SON

Licensed Farm Produce Agents.
8 City Fruit Markets, Sydney.

Our Motto—Quick Sales and Prompt Settlements.

Forwarding Numbers:
Tasmania, Victoria, S. Australia, No. 88.
Queensland, Northern Rivers, No. 18.

Market Notes and Prices

Fruit Prices in the Sydney Market

Survey of Operations for the Period January 25 to February 25, 1939.

Quantity of Fruit Increases :: But Short Summer Fruit Season Anticipated :: Peaches, Lemons, Grapes, in Turn Experience Recession :: Pineapples Plentiful :: Orange Supplies lessening :: Apple and Pear Export Commenced.

By the Market Representative, Fruitgrowers' Federation of New South Wales.

THE AVAILABLE SUPPLY of fruit at the end of January caused many in the trade to consider that reports of light crops had been grossly exaggerated, and until the last few days, no noticeable decrease was observed. First, an **oversupply of Peaches** was observed, the high values existing acting as a magnet for all the **Elberta** and off type Peaches that are customarily sold locally or are dried on the orchard. There probably were as many Peaches available as usual for a few days, but the quantity was not so much the trouble as was the limited demand—following some weeks of prohibitive prices during which the public had accepted the fact that fruit was scarce and that they could not afford to buy it. Even as the demand had been gradually choked, so now had vendors to encourage buyers to increase their purchases, but the process was too gradual a one for the Peaches available to maintain their high level, and a thorough collapse was only prevented by utilising the cool stores extensively.

Lemons had suddenly jumped to 25/- about the middle of January, and as suddenly crashed, the recovery even at this date being only a partial one. At the time it was considered that the influx of fruit resulted from the attractive market, but subsequent events showed that most Lemons upon the trees during the hot weather had been "cooked," so that they were browning inside and were becoming dry. The sudden influx to the market, therefore, was the producer's attempt to secure something for the fruit which normally would not have reached the market for some weeks. How scarce Lemons are to be during the next two months or so is a question that cannot yet be answered.

In regard to **Grapes**, like Peaches, the dual purpose of the fruit and the fact that it is largely grown on the irrigation areas, enabled fruit that would normally have been used for wine or drying purposes, to be diverted to the under-supplied Sydney market. Many growers even considered that the high prices ruling justified their taking a risk with both immature and poor quality fruit, and an influx of this unwanted product broke the market, and even temporarily affected the value of choice quality local fruit. That stage of marketing, however, is past, with the exception of drought affected fruit from the Young and Molong Districts, and values are mostly at a very satisfactory level.

Williams Pears at no time have been too plentiful, and values have been on the average several shillings above their usual price.

Small Apples, that is, below 216 count per bushel, have predominated and have dragged at the better price offering for the small percentage of larger fruit. The largest fruit has come from Tasmania, and the Batlow District of this State, the colored fruit from Tasmania receiving a clearance at a price and quickness that exceeds the records of many years.

Plums from the Orange District appeared unusually early, and the rapid advance from Ponds Seedling to Grand Duke, and then to President and even October Purple, makes one consider that the season will be an extremely short one. Nectarines have always been a very popular fruit, sales probably averaging from 6/- to 9/- per half bushel, according to size of the fruit.

Citrus: An extended **Valencia** season now appears to be coming to a close, after weeks during which the fruit has sold at a level of from 8/- to 12/-, and latterly 15/- and higher per bushel. Some of this fruit has been steadily drying, and some has been very green, but its keeping quality made it a sure investment for the retailer, and in addition, a profitable margin was always there, for the public must have their Orange juice.

Praiseworthy clearances of increased supplies of Pineapples have been made each week, the public apparently being prepared to drink the juice, purchase the fresh fruit, and also to stock the canned article. The increased supply of this tropical fruit was fortunate to occur at a time when most fruit were less plentiful than usual.

Tomatoes from Queensland have been less fortunate, unless the fruit was larger than the average and of better appearance than our local product. This fruit from all sources has been badly affected by weather conditions, and Tomatoes, like Grapefruit, must be clean skinned to attain a satisfactory price.

Plums have been despatched to the U.K. by the "Stratheden," and **Packham Pears** have travelled to London also, while a steady stream of stone fruits have found their way to Eastern ports. Export quality fruit, however, is not easy to obtain this season, and shippers report being unable to supply certain orders.—L. T. Pearce, Market Representative, Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W.

Market Report for February 21, 1939.

Apples: Extra Fancy, Fancy and Good—Alex. (Tas.), 5/- to 8/- per bush.; Cleo. and London Pippin (N.S.W.), 4/6 to 8/-; Duke of Clarence (Tas.), 6/- to 9/-; Fameuse (N.S.W.), 5/- to 9/-; Grav. (N.S.W., Q'land. (Tas. to 9/-), 4/6 to 10/-; Granny (N.S.W., Q'land.), 5/- to 10/-; Jon. (N.S.W. and Q'land.), 5/- to 12/-, few 13/-; McIntosh Red (N.S.W. and Q'land.), 5/- to 12/-; Worcester, 7/- to 11/-; Small and "D" Grade lower.

Pears: B. d'Cap. (N.S.W.), 4/- to 6/- per bushel; B. Bosc. (N.S.W.), 5/- to 7/-; China (N.S.W.), 3/- to 6/-; Howell (N.S.W. and Vic.), 4/6 to 7/-; Williams (Vict.), 8/- to 10/-; Wil-

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Tasmania: State Fruit Advisory Board.

New South Wales: Griffith Producers' Co-op. Co. Ltd. Batlow Packing House Co-op. Soc. Ltd.

liams (Tas.), 6/- to 9/-; Williams (N.S.W.), 8/- to 11/-; Small and "D" Grade from 3/6.

Bananas — N.S.W. and Q'land:—(Prices according to the Banana Marketing Board of N.S.W.), Regulation Graded, First Quality Fruit: Six inch, seven inch, eight and nine inch, 14/- to 20/- per tropical case.

Citrus Fruits.

Grapefruit: U.S.A., Californian, 32/6 per Cal. case; Palestine, 20/- to 28/- per citrus box; N.S.W., 10/- to 15/- per bushel case. Immature and small lower.

Lemons: N.S.W., Plain and Standard (green and partly colored), 10/- to 16/-, few to 19/- per bush.; Q'land, 20/- to 26/- bush.; Palestine, 60/- per two bushel case.

Oranges: Val.—N.S.W., Local 180 to 216, 8/- to 16/-, few higher per bushel; Standard and Special, Inland, 8/- to 16/-.

Grapes: N.S.W., Local, Sherry 6/- to 7/- per half bush.; Black Muscat, 8/- to 10/-, few to 12/-; Black Hamburg, 6/- to 7/6 per half bush. Inland, Gordo, 6/- to 8/-; Waltham Cross, 5/- to 8/-; Black Muscat, 4/- to 8/-, few higher; Cornichon, to 9/-; inferior lower.

Melons: N.S.W., Local Rockmelons, 4/- to 6/-; Inland Honeydews, 4/- to 6/-; Cal. Cremes, 4/- to 8/-; Cantaloupes, 5/- to 7/-, few 10/-; Hales Best, 5/- to 8/-; Casabas, 3/- per trop. case. Local Watermelons, 3/- to 8/- per dozen.

Nectarines: N.S.W. Inland, 6/- to 8/-, few large to 10/-, small and inferior from 3/6 per half case; Vic., 7/- to 14/- per bushel.

Plums: N.S.W., 3/- to 5/-, small from 1/6 extra large to 7/- per half bushel case; Tas., Grand Duke, 3/6 to 5/- half bush.

Peaches: N.S.W. Inland, Area Clings, 4/- to 5/- per half bush.; others, 5/- to 7/-; J. H. Hale, 6/- to 9/-, few higher; 7/- to 12/- per bush.; Vic., 7/- to 9/- per bush.

Passionfruit: N.S.W., 18/- to 22/- per half bush. Scarce.

Persimmons: N.S.W., 4/- to 5/- per half bush.

Papaws: Q'land., 14/- to 18/- per trop. case.

Pineapples: Q'land. and N.S.W., 6/- to 8/- per trop. case.

Quinces: Vic. and N.S.W., 6/- to 8/- per bushel.

Tomatoes: N.S.W., 2/6 to 7/-, special 8/- per half case; Q'land., 4/- to 6/- per half case; Vic., 10/- to 13/- few special higher per bushel; repacked, 8/- to 11/- per half bushel.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Perth (22/2/39): Apples: Jon. flats, 2/- to 5/6; dumps, plain 2/- to 3/-; fancy 4/- to 8/-; ex.f., 6/- to 8/6; Dunn's flats, 2/- to 3/6; dumps, fancy 3/- to 5/6; ex.f. from 4/6; Cleo., flats 2/- to 4/-; dumps, fancy 3/- to 4/-; ex.f. 4/6 to 5/-. Citrus: Oranges, flats, 3/- to 7/-; dumps, 4/- to 10/6 (special to 12/-); Lemons, flats, 3/- to 10/-. Stone; Plums, flats, Satsuma, 1/- to 5/-; Pond's 4/- to 6/-; October Purple 1/6 to 7/-; President 1/- to 6/-; Black Diamond 2/- to 3/6; Peaches, flats, 2/6 to 8/- (special to 9/-); Nectarines, flats, 6/- to 13/-. Other lines: Pears, Bartlett, flats, 1/- to 7/-; dumps, plain, 3/- to 4/-; fancy 4/6 to 5/-; ex.f. 6/- to 7/9. Tomatoes, ripe No. 1, 6/- to 17/3; half-ripe, No. 1, 4/- to 10/6; medium from 2/-; Bananas, Carnarvon, 16/- to 34/- crate; Grapes, open, Muscat, 1/6 to 7/6, colored 1/6 to 6/6; closed, Muscat to 3/6; colored, 1/6 to 4/6; others 5/-; Passionfruit, three-quarter, 4/- to 9/-; half 5/-; quarter 3/-.

VICTORIA.

Melbourne (2/3/39): Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association prices: Per Case: Apples, eating, 6/-, 10/-; choice higher; cooking, 4/- 6/-; choice higher. Bananas, double case, 10/-, 16/-; few higher. Cantaloupes, 4/-, 7/-; choice higher. Cucumbers, 4/-, 6/-. Grapes, 8/-, 16/-; choice higher. Grapefruit, 6/-, 16/-; selected higher. Lemons, 14/-, 28/-. Oranges, 8/-, 18/-; selected higher. Passionfruit, 4/-, 10/-; choice higher. Papaws, to 20/-. Pears, 4/-, 7/-, choice higher, Peaches, 3/-, 5/-; choice higher. Pineapples, 7/-, 9/-; choice higher. Plums, 3/-, 6/-; choice higher. Tomatoes, 8/-, 16/-; few higher.

The Federal Citrus Council of Australia reports:—Valencias, average standards, 7/-, 15/-; selected, 8/-, 17/-, few 18/-; specially selected, 9/-, 19/-, few 20/-; few premium lines higher. Grapefruit, average, 6/-, 13/-; selected, 8/-, 15/-; few, 16/-; specially selected, 9/-, 16/-; odd, 17/-. Palestine Grapefruit, 23/-, 30/-; few higher. Lemons, new season's, selected, wrapped, 24/-, 28/-; Palestine, export boxes, 40/-, 45/-.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide (24/2/39): Prices supplied by the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association. Apples (cooking) 5/- to 6/- case; do. (eating) 7/- to 8/- case; Bananas 20/- to 22/- case; Grapes (dark) 5/- half case; do. (white) 5/- half case; Lemons 20/- to 22/- case; Nectarines 8/- half case; Oranges, 12/- to 14/- case; Peaches (white) 6/-; do. (yellow) 5/- half case; Pears (eating) 6/- to 8/- case. Pineapples 10/- to 12/- case; Plums (light) 2/- case; do. (dark) 2/6 case; do. (Jap.) 3/6 case. Cases extra.

QUEENSLAND.

Brisbane (20/2/39): Messrs. Clark & Jesser report as follows:—Since our last report to you the supply of both fruit and vegetables have increased and ruling rates are now as follows:—Apples: Jons. 8/- to 9/-, smaller sizes 6/- to 7/-, G.S. 8/- to 9/-, other colored Apples 8/-, small sizes 6/- to 7/-. Pears: W.B.C. 9/- to 10/-, small sizes 6/- to 7/-, Howells 7/- to 8/-. Oranges, 12/- to 15/-. Lemons 18/- to 20/-. Grapes: Muscats 5/- to 5/6, other Black varieties 4/6 to 5/-; Waltham Cross 6/- to 7/-. Plums: Ponds 8/- to 10/-. Presidents and Grand Dukes 6/- to 8/-. Peaches: 4/- to 6/-. Passionfruit: 9/- to 10/-. Pineapples: Roughs 6/- to 7/- case, smooths 4/- to 5/-. Papaws: 3/- to 5/- dump case. Tomatoes: 4/- to 5/-.

TASMANIAN STATE FRUIT BOARD.

A MEETING of the Tasmanian State Fruit Board was held at Hobart on February 24. Mr. D. E. Ryan presided. There were also present Messrs. J. R. Abel, L. S. Taylor, T. G. Thompson, T. Burnaby, W. H. Calvert, M.L.C., R. H. Thompson, E. Norris and J. S. Bulman.

Sydney Agents.

It was decided to take steps to establish a panel of agents in Sydney.

Hail Insurance.

Replies from Insurance Companies stating that the desired hail insurance was not available were received with regret.

Fruit Export.

Messrs. R. H. Thompson and E. Norris reporting on their interview with shipping companies, said the agents had promised to speed up two vessels and that the space difficulty would be overcome.

Mr. J. R. Abel stated H. Jones & Co. had written stating they could not reduce their charges for pre-cooling Pears. This was regretted, and the matter was referred to the Chairman and Secretary.

Regret was also expressed that the regulations stipulating the thickness of 3/16th in. for tops and bottoms of Canadian cases was not made known earlier.

Dissatisfaction was expressed with the shipping programme for the Tasmanian fruit season, particularly in regard to ships for Port Huon. A resolution was adopted that the Board was of the opinion that O.S.R.A. was not supplying the reasonable requirements of the Tasmanian fruitgrowers, and to send a copy of the resolution to the Federal Government. Mr. Abel said that in Victoria the shipping programme for the season was known before Tasmania had their advices. It appeared the ships were allotted to other States and Tasmania was given those left over.

A Conference was held the same day with shipping agents. Shipping representatives stated they could not control the number of ships calling at Port Huon, although they had repeatedly urged the need for more ships to call there.

(Representatives of the Victorian Fruit Exporters' Handling Committee stated they had read the report of the statements at the Tasmanian State Fruit Board that Victoria's programme was known ahead of Tasmania's. They state Tasmania has not been correctly informed on this matter. The position in Victoria was so indefinite that arrangements had to be fitted in and adjusted almost from day to day.)

The Empire Fruits Council has convened an Empire Fruit Conference to be held at London at the end of June or early July.

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The Pig Pen

TREATMENT FOR LICE ON PIGS.

Harmful Effect of Infestation.

THE FACT that in all parts of N.S.W. lice are prevalent on pigs shows how little the farmer is alive to the danger of these parasites, observes a N.S.W. Departmental pamphlet. Their presence on the animal causes unthriftiness and slow fattening, while the constant irritation of the skin and falling off in condition are sources of continual loss. Often, owing to the scratching and rubbing, inflammatory and necrotic processes are set up. It has also been stated that such infectious diseases as swine fever may be transferred by these insects.

Lice may be easily killed by the application of a 2 per cent. solution of any common coal tar disinfectant such as lysol or creosol. Fat and kerosene (one part of kerosene to fifteen parts fat) is also effective, and good results are obtained from kerosene emulsion, made up of kerosene 2 gallons, hard soap 1 lb., and water 8 gallons; 1 gallon of this solution being added to 9 gallons of water for dipping.

Treatment must be carried out at seven-day intervals for three dippings to be effective, and the pigs must not be exposed to the sun after treatment, or scalding may result. The houses and posts where the pig has been rubbing must also be sprayed with a 5 per cent. solution of disinfectant to kill the lice which have left the pig after feeding.

PIGS ON FREE RUN.

Otherwise Use Alternate Paddocks.

It is far healthier for pigs to have a free run (except in the final period of fattening) than to be penned. If this is impossible, it is advisable to try a system of alternate paddocks.

Under this system, when one yard becomes foul from constant use by the pigs it can be ploughed or dug up, limed, and a green or root crop sown, and the pigs transferred to another yard.

When the crop is up the pigs may be returned to that yard and have the benefit of the food, while the yard just vacated can then be treated in a similar manner. This serves the double purpose of cleansing and sweetening the soil and providing some green food.

Yards that have been used for some considerable period without being rested are merely a source of infection for various microbic and parasitic diseases.

PIG EXPERT APPOINTED.

Mr. L. A. Downey, from Queensland.

The Victorian State Cabinet has appointed Mr. L. A. Downey, of the Queensland Department of Agriculture, to be pig expert to the Victorian Department of Agriculture, at a salary rising from £455 to £559 a year. Mr. Downey is a graduate of Hurlstone and Hawkesbury Agricultural Colleges, N.S.W., and has been with the Queensland Department since 1928. He was chosen from among 30 applicants.

Professor (explaining magnetism): "Jack, how many natural magnets are known of?"

Jack: "Two sir."

"Yes, and will you please name them."

"Blondes and brunettes, sir,"

Poultry Notes

GREEN FOOD FOR POULTRY.

March is one of the best months for planting green feed crops.

The hot dry weather weather conditions have made it difficult to prepare land for planting, but it must be remembered that a crop will not be satisfactory unless the ground is reasonably free from weeds. Therefore, no opportunity should be lost in cultivating.

Of the various crops which may be grown in these months, Berseem Clover and Red Clover are the best in the opinion of the N.S.W. Dept. of Agric. Lucerne has the advantage of lasting over seven or eight years, but does not grow to any extent during the Winter, therefore it is advisable to have a crop which can be cut when lucerne is dormant. Berseem clover is best for this purpose. Remember that the importance of a regular supply of green feed throughout the year cannot be over estimated. Not only does it assist in maintaining the birds in a healthy condition by supplying essential mineral salts, etc., but where there is an abundance of green feed, it can be finely chaffed and used in the morning mash up to one-fifth by measure of the total amount.

When applying poultry manure to your crops, care must be taken to see that it does not come into contact with the crop, particularly in the early stages of growth. The best method is to place the manure between the rows, and when partly rotted to dig it in.

Those who are experiencing a shortage of green feed on account of the dry season can still plant maize during this month to provide a supply for some weeks while other crops are coming on. The maize should be cut before becoming too stalky, and should be kept in a succulent condition.

FOWLS NEED EXERCISE.

But Jumping Should be Avoided.

Growing birds and laying hens certainly need exercise, but care should be taken as to how this is taken. Fowls on a free range take all the exercise they need, but penned birds are not so fortunately situated. The best exercise for these birds is scratching in the litter for their grain feed.

Remember, do not place the greens which are a necessary part of their diet too high. Continued jumping for every mouthful often results in both internal and external injury. Another, and much worse example, is when perches are placed too high. There is nothing much worse for hens, whose egg organs are often seriously damaged, and whose feet suffer.

MOLASSES FOR POULTRY.

AS PART of the poultry ration, molasses are becoming increasingly popular among poultry farmers in California (U.S.A.), as an appetiser and condition builder, particularly for pullets in the growing stage and during Autumn production.

Farmers who have used molasses claim that it is valuable in the prevention of prolapsus in maturing pullets, as well as creating a condition in the intestinal tract unfavorable to the development of bacterial troubles, such as coccidiosis.

Generally it is agreed that 7½ per cent, of molasses in an all-mash ration, or 15 per cent. in a ration fed with grain, is the maximum amount that can be safely fed to laying hens. Greater amounts produce a pronounced laxative effect.

Molasses bran is also popular on the West Coast—the mixture consisting of 15 per cent. molasses, 85 per cent, wheat bran. It is often used in mixed mashes in place of the usual wheat bran, but it is most favored when fed separately, cafeteria style, in one hopper, the regular mash being placed in other hoppers.—Charles W. Peters in "Country Gentleman."

CARE WITH MANURE.

If poultry manure is to be applied to land which is growing green feed for the feeding of poultry, such manure should be stacked until it is thoroughly sweated and decomposed before it is applied. The reason for this is that the manure contains many parasitic diseases, and this is one of the chief causes of the spread of such diseases.

Packing Pineapples for Southern Markets

SOME GROWERS pick the first consignment of Pineapples too soon, in order to catch the early market. Immature fruit is difficult to dispose of, and weakens the market for subsequent consignments.

It is important to be careful in the picking and handling of fruit in order to prevent bruising. **The slightest bruise or puncture will affect their keeping qualities.** Fruit should be cut with a sharp knife at a point lower on the stem than the gill sprouts, not more than a quarter of an inch of the stem should be left at the butt of the Pine. Breaking the fruit from the stem should be avoided. When cut, the fruit should be placed in baskets or lug boxes, not more than two deep, in such manner that the spikes or crowns will not penetrate into the other fruits.

Good grading is essential. It is done by selecting Pines of uniform size, required to give certain counts. A 21 count represents 21 Pines of even size to the tropical case. All imperfect fruit should be rejected. Only fruit of one size and even degree of ripeness should be packed in each case.

Packing Large Fruits.

The first and second crops of Pines are generally too large to pack comfortably, but subsequent crops are much more easily handled. This big fruit may run eleven or twelve to the case; the former is packed in three layers with four, three and four fruits respectively in each layer, and the latter is also packed in three layers of four each. When the pack contains fourteen fruits, there are three tiers of five, four and five fruits respectively in each tier. Three layers of five give a fifteen count. Cases holding twenty-one and twenty-four are packed in three layers with 7 and 8 Pines respectively.

Rough varieties usually sell for 2/- a case less than smooth leaf Cayennes on the southern markets, and the former varieties should be disposed of locally. Counts from 18 to 21 are most popular. The word "Pineapples" or "Pines," the number, the variety, and the growers' name and address should be stencilled on one end of the case, leaving the other end for shipping marks.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

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In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the

Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Victoria

the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

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Correspondence is invited by the Association.

Office : 21 Wholesale Fruit Market, Queen Street, Melbourne. Phone: F 4866.

NEW ZEALAND

YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS IN NEW ZEALAND.

Big Developments in this Splendid Movement.

THE YOUNG FARMERS' CLUB movement has made tremendous strides in New Zealand. There is now a Federation of these Young Farmers' Clubs, Mr. S. Freeman being the Dominion Organising Secretary. All phases of primary production are dealt with. Field days are frequently held.

At a field day held by the Southern Manawatu Club at Tokorangi attracted an attendance of 250 people. The principal events were displays of horses, cattle, etc.

A conference of eight district committees was recently held at Palmerston North. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. E. Sherwood (Dept. of Agriculture), emphasised the value of encouraging correct procedure at meetings and the correct keeping of papers, books, photos, etc. He asked all members to wear their badges, and suggested an initiation ceremony for new members, an oath of allegiance to the movement, and that the movement should have its own motto and song. Club competitions were recommended. Mr. A. E. Webb, of the Mangatawhiri Club, emphasised the importance of herd testing.

At Wanganui District Field Day, prizes were won for Southdowns, dairy cattle, Romneys, beef cattle and pigs.

A debating contest was conducted at Whakatane, the subject being: "That Modern Civilisation is a Failure." A film show was held by the Matarau Club illustrating the manufacture of superphosphate. Thornbury held a demonstration on judging Romney and Southdown hoggets; Otama lecture on "Travelling Abroad"; Stirling had a lantern-lecture on "Bee-keeping," and an address on overseas travels. Alexandra had a debate on "Is Twenty-one too Young for a Girl to Marry?" whilst Roxburgh had an address on "The Liability of the Farmer in Respect to Accidents to his Employees." Milford is arranging for a turnip-hoeing competition, while Pleasant Point heard an address an "The New Zealand Territorial Force." The Darfield Club are having an interesting time with several addresses, a field day, and a very entertaining barn dance. Ellesmere has been having lectures on "World Affairs and how They Affect the Farmer" and "Forestry and its Relation to the Farmer."

Eketahuna has been receiving support from many older farmers in the district and had a lecture on "Milk Fever, Grass Staggers, and Paralysis." Greytown had a practical demonstration on "The Making of Concrete Posts." A club debate "That a Dairy-farm takes more Managerial Ability than a Sheep-farm" was held at Masterton. Apiti are holding a stock show, while Fielding saw a film depicting the working of an oil-refinery. Halcombe held a lecturette competition and an illustrated talk on "A Hunting Trip Through the Yukon." Kairanga also listened to addresses and proposes to hold a social evening. Rongotea invited their parents and friends to an evening, and a club debate was held. Marton have arranged to give a radio talk, hold a debate "That Farming To-day is More Difficult than it was Fifty Years Ago," and have had a lecture and a very successful club dance. Alton also had a social evening, whilst Eltham had a lecture on "Parasites in Stock." Whakamara-Mokoia also held discussions.

Karawaka arranged for a club debate "Tractor v. Horses," radio lecture, and an address on "General Sheep-farm Management." Ohau-Tongaporutu held a dance. Urenui held a field day. Onga Onga had a discussion on "Farming Matters in General," while Takapau held a club discussion and a lecture. Putorino had a debate, the subject being "That Grassland Farming Pays Better than Ploughing and Cropping." Wairoa held an anniversary dance. Tolaga Bay had a lecture on "The Treatment of Wounds and Abscesses in Horses." Opotiki has held several field days. A lantern lecture on "Bacteria in Milk, and their Control" and a dance was held by the Waimana club. Paengaroa has had several discussions and lectures and a social dance. Huntly West held a field day. Ruawai were given a lantern lecture on "Hay and Ensilage." Broadwood has held a field day, lectures and club debate. Oruru held a "working bee to clear ground for the propagation of shelter-trees.

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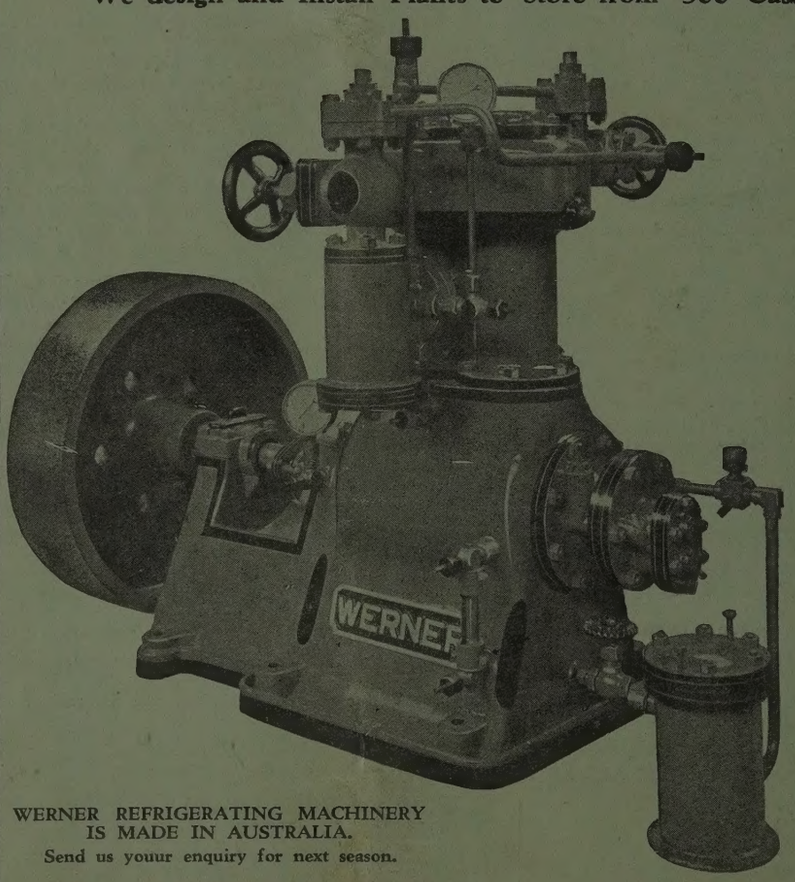

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New Zealand Crops

Apples and Pears Light.

The Director of the Horticulture Division, N.Z. Dept. of Agriculture, has received the following reports from his officers regarding the fruit crop prospects at the end of January, 1939:—

Auckland Province.

Auckland: Apples, light to average. Pears, below average.

Waikato: Apples, below average almost all varieties. Pears, light.

Tauranga: Apples and Pears, crops below average.

Hawkes Bay, Wellington and Taranaki Provinces.

Hawkes Bay:: Apples, very light to below average crop. Pears, slightly below average crop.

Palmerston North:: Apples, light crop; average crop Sturmer. Pears, below average.

Gisborne: Apples, light to average. Pears, below average.

Wairarapa: Apples, Cox's Orange average crop; other varieties from light to average. Pears, average.

Wanganui: Apples, light to average crop.

New Plymouth: Apples, light crop. Pears, very light.

Nelson and Marlborough Provinces.

Nelson: Apples, moderate crop most varieties, with the exception of Cox's Orange and Dunns, which are definitely light. Pears, average crop most varieties.

Marlborough: Apples, average crop most varieties with full crop Cox's Orange and below average crop Sturmer. Pears and stone fruit, average crops.

Canterbury and Otago Provinces.

Canterbury: Apples, good crop Jonathan, Lord Wolseley and Sturmer; Delicious, light crop. Pears, average crop.

Otago: Apples, good crop most varieties; Cox's Orange heavy crop. Pears, average to very good.

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